PRACTICEBOOK OF INDIAN POLITY AND GOVERNANCE

For Civil Services Prelims Examination

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PRACTICEBOOK OF INDIAN POLITY AND GOVERNANCE

For Civil Services Prelims Examination

Second Edition (Print): 2026

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2. Facts and Figures have been updated as per the latest information available.

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INDIAN POLITY AND GOVERNANCE

INTRODUCTION TO THE CONSTITUTION

1.1. Historical Background & Colonial rule

1. Which of the following elements were introduced for the first time in British India by the Government of India Act, 1919?

1. Dyarchy at provinces
2. Bicameralism
3. Communal representation in legislature
4. Association of Indians with the Viceroy's executive council
5. Allowing Provincial Councils to determine on women's voting rights

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 5 only
(d) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only

2. "This act made the Governor-General of Bengal as the Governor-General of India. It deprived the Governors of Bombay and Madras of their legislative powers. It attempted to introduce a system of open competition for selection of civil servants."

Which one of the following acts is being described in the above given paragraph?

(a) Charter Act of 1833
(b) Indian Councils Act of 1861
(c) Government of India Act of 1858
(d) Government of India Act of 1919

3. The Indian Councils Act of 1861 is an important act in the political and constitutional history of India. In this context, consider the following provisions:

1. It legalized the portfolio system in India.
2. It empowered the Viceroy to issue ordinances.
3. The viceroy should nominate some Indians as non-official members of his council.
4. The legislative powers of the Bombay and Madras Presidencies were taken away.

Which of the above provisions were part of the Indian Councils Act of 1861?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

4. With regard to the provisions of the Charter Act of 1833, consider the following statements:

1. The post of Governor General of Bengal was converted into Viceroy of India.
2. The Act introduced an open competition system for recruitment of civil servants.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

5. In the context of the British administration in India, consider the following statements about Amending Act,1781/Act of Settlement 1781:

According to the act:

1. appeals from provincial courts could be filed in the Supreme Court of Calcutta.
2. political affairs of the East India Company to be handled by the Board of Control.
3. the Governor-General and Council were exempted from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in Calcutta, for actions done in their official capacity.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) None of the above

6. With reference to the Regulating Act of 1773, consider the following statements:

1. It was the first Act of the British Parliament to lay the foundations of central administration in India.
2. It exempted the Governor-General of Bengal from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court for the acts done in the official capacity.
3. It prohibited the servants of the East India Company from engaging in private trade in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

7. Which of the following Acts introduced the 'Principle of Constitutional Autocracy' in India?
(a) The Indian Councils Act of 1909
(b) The Government of India Act of 1919
(c) The Government of India Act of 1935
(d) The Indian Independence Act of 1947

8. Consider the following statement regarding the Pitts India Act of 1784:
1. The Act separated the commercial and the political functions of the East India Company.
2. It provided for the establishment of a Supreme Court at Calcutta
3. The Act deprived Madras and Bombay Presidencies of their legislative powers in India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

9. The Government of India Act of 1935 had provision of establishing an All-India Federation. In this context, how this act differentiated Indian Princely States from the Governor's Provinces?
1. Indian Princely states were mandatorily needed to join Indian federation whereas it was voluntary in case of Governor's Provinces.
2. Unlike Princely States, in case of Governor's Provinces the federal authority was extended to only legislative matters and not to executive matters.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

10. With reference to Government of India Act of 1935, consider the following:
1. Introduction of responsible government in provinces
2. Reserved seats for women in legislature
3. Introduction of bicameralism at the center

Which of the above were the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1935?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

11. With reference to 'Indian Council Act of 1861', consider the following statements:
1. It restored the legislative powers to the Bombay and Madras Presidencies.
2. It established a 15-member Council of India to assist the secretary of state for India.
3. It ended the system of double government by abolishing the Board of Control and Court of Directors.
4. It empowered the Viceroy to issue ordinances without the concurrence of the legislative council.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 1 and 4 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 3 and 4 only

12. Consider the following Acts:
1. Indian Independence Act, 1947
2. Government of India Act, 1935
3. Abolition of Privy Council Jurisdiction Act, 1949

How many of the above acts were repealed once the Constitution of India came into effect on 26 January 1950?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

13. The Government of India Act, 1935, provided for the establishment of which of the following bodies/organizations?
1. Reserve Bank of India
2. Federal court
3. Federal Railway Authority
4. Provincial Public Service Commissions

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1, 3 and 4 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

14. Which of the following acts of the British Parliament for the first time provided for the association of Indians with Executive Councils of Viceroy, during the colonial administration of India?

(a) Indian Councils Act of 1861
(b) Indian Councils Act of 1909
(c) Indian Councils Act of 1892
(d) Government of India Act of 1919

15. Consider the following statements with reference to Acts and Commissions during the British rule:

1. India Council Act of 1892 enlarged the functions of the Legislative Councils giving them the powers to discuss the Budget.
2. The Simon Commission recommended the extension of responsible Government in the provinces.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

16. Which of the following features of the constitution of India has been borrowed from the Government of India Act,1935?

(a) Fundamental rights, independence of judiciary, judicial review, impeachment of the president.
(b) Federal Scheme, Office of governor, Judiciary, Public Service Commissions, Emergency provisions.
(c) Concurrent List, freedom of trade, commerce and inter-course, and joint sitting of the two Houses of Parliament.
(d) Parliamentary government, Rule of Law, legislative procedure, single citizenship, cabinet system, prerogative writs.

1.2. Constituent Assembly

17. With reference to 'Constituent Assembly', consider the following statements:

1. The assembly was empowered to alter any law made by the British Parliament in relation to India.
2. The members of the Muslim League from the Indian Dominion never entered the Assembly.
3. Both H.C. Mukherjee and V.T. Krishnamachari were elected as the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly.
4. Dr Sachchidanand Sinha was the chairperson of the assembly whenever it met as the legislative body.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

18. With respect to the making of the Indian Constitution, which of the following statements is correct about the Objectives Resolution?

(a) It was introduced in the Constituent Assembly by B.R. Ambedkar.
(b) It mentioned the adoption of a Parliamentary form of government in the country.
(c) It provided safeguards to minorities and tribal areas.
(d) It is a legally binding part of the Indian Constitution.

19. With reference to the 'Objectives Resolution', introduced in the first session of the Constituent Assembly, consider the following statements:

1. It declared India as an Independent Sovereign Republic.
2. It provides for adequate safeguards for minorities and depressed classes.
3. It guaranteed to the people of India, the equality of status and opportunity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

20. With respect to the Constituent Assembly of India, consider the following statements:

1. The concept of a Constituent Assembly was first put forward by Motilal Nehru in 1928.
2. It was constituted under the scheme formulated by the Wavell Plan.
3. The Constituent Assembly held its first meeting on November 9, 1945.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

21. With reference to 'Composition of Constituent Assembly of India', consider the following statements:

1. Each British Indian province and princely state were allotted fixed one seat in the constituent assembly.
2. The representatives of princely states in the assembly were to be nominated by the heads of the princely states.
3. The seats allocated to each British province were to be divided among the Muslims, Sikhs and General.
4. The members from chief commissioners' provinces were represented in the constituent assembly.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 4 only

22. Which of the following provisions of the Constitution of India came into force on 26th November, 1949?

1. Provisional Parliament
2. Citizenship
3. Directive Principles of State Policy
4. Elections
5. Planning Commission
6. Fundamental Rights

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 2, 3, 4 and 6 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6

23. The Constituent Assembly appointed a number of committees to deal with different tasks of constitution-making. Which of the following committees were headed by Dr. Rajendra Prasad?

1. Union Powers Committee
2. Provincial Constitution Committee
3. Rules of Procedure Committee
4. Steering Committee
5. Finance and Staff Committee
6. Ad-hoc Committee on the National Flag

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1, 3 and 5 only
(b) 1, 2, 4, and 6 only
(c) 3, 4, 5 and 6 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 only

24. Consider the following pairs with reference to the First Cabinet of Independent India (1947):

Member	Portfolio
1. Jawaharlal Nehru	Home Affairs
2. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel	Information and Broadcasting
3. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur	Health
4. Dr. Rajendra Prasad	Education

Which of the pairs given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 1,2, 3 and 4

25. Consider the following:

"He was first Deputy Prime Minister of Independent India. He was the chairman of Provincial Constitution Committee of the Constituent Assembly of India. He played a historic role in negotiating with the rulers of princely states to bring most of them into the Indian Union"

Who among the following leaders is described in the above passage?

(a) Jawaharlal Nehru
(b) J.P. Kripalani
(c) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
(d) Dr. Sachidanand Sinha

26. Marx was a proponent of communism, advocating for class struggle and the emancipation of the proletariat from capitalist systems, while Ambedkar focused on social justice, equality, and reform, challenging caste discrimination. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. Both Marx and Ambedkar advocated for the complete renunciation of religion from society.
2. Both Marx and Ambedkar supported the establishment of a stateless society.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

27. Who was the Vice-President of the Executive Council in 1946 of the Interim Government that was formed in India?

(a) Chittaranjan Das
(b) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
(c) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
(d) Jawaharlal Nehru

28. Consider the following events:

1. Reduction of voting age from 21 to 18 years of age.
2. Sikkim becomes full-fledged state of Indian Union.
3. judgement in the case of Minerva Mills Ltd. and Ors. vs Union of India and Ors.
4. Removal of right to property from the list of fundamental rights.

Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the above events?

(a) 4 - 1 - 2 - 3
(b) 3 - 2 - 1 - 4
(c) 2 - 4 - 3 - 1
(d) 3 - 2 - 4 – 1

29. The contribution of women in the making of the Indian constitution is generally less known. In this context, consider the following personalities:

1. Hansa Jivraj Mehta
2. Durgabai Deshmukh
3. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit
4. Madam Bhikaji Cama
5. Matangini Hazra

How many of the above were part of the Constituent Assembly of India?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

30. A State is traditionally defined by the presence of four essential elements. Which of the following groups represents these four elements?

(a) Government, Economy, Military, Population
(b) Population, Currency, Military, Government
(c) Territory, Economy, Sovereignty, Culture
(d) Population, Territory, Government, Sovereignty

31. Consider the following pairs:

Committees of Constituent Assembly	Chairperson
1. States Committee	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
2. House Committee	B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya
3. Provincial Constitution Committee	Jawaharlal Nehru

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

32. In his speech to the Constituent Assembly, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar referred "These principles are not to be treated as separate items in a trinity. They form a union of trinity in the sense that to divorce one from the other is to defeat the very purpose of democracy."

Which of the following group of principles does this refer to?

(a) Liberty, equality, and fraternity
(b) Justice, equality, and liberty
(c) Economic, social, and political justice
(d) Fundamental Rights, Justice and Liberty

33. With reference to the Constituent Assembly of India, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Constituent Assembly consisted of members from different religious, linguistic, and social groups.

Statement-II: The members of the Assembly were directly elected by the people of India through Universal Adult Suffrage.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

34. In addition to law making, the constituent assembly performed a number of other functions. In this context consider the following events

1. Adoption of National Flag
2. Adoption of Constitution
3. Adoption of National Anthem
4. Ratified India's membership of the commonwealth

Which of the following is the correct chronological sequence of the above events?

(a) 4- 1- 3- 2
(b) 1- 4- 3- 2
(c) 4- 1- 2- 3
(d) 1- 4- 2- 3

35. Consider the following pairs regarding various committees of the Constituent Assembly:

Committee	Headed by
1. Drafting Committee	Jawaharlal Nehru
2. States Committee	Sardar Patel
3. Credentials Committee	Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar
4. Committee on the National Flag	Pattabhi Sitaramayya

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

36. Consider the following:

1. Adoption of National Flag of India
2. Ratification of India's membership to the United Nations (UN)
3. Adoption of National Song of India
4. Election of C. Rajagopalachari as the Governor-General of India

Apart from framing the Constitution, how many of the above functions were performed by the Constituent Assembly of India?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

37. Consider the following pairs with reference to ministers in Interim government of 1946 in India and the portfolios held by them:

Ministers	Portfolios
1. Dr. Rajendra Prasad	Food & Agriculture
2. Jagjivan Ram	Labour
3. C. Rajagopalachari	Education & Arts
4. Joginder Nath Mandal	Defence

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

38. In the context of the Constituent Assembly of India, consider the following statements:

Statement I: Among the Indian provinces, the United Province had the highest representation in the Constituent Assembly as on 31st December, 1947.

Statement II: The seats in the Constituent Assembly were allocated to provinces based on their population.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II explains Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

39. Consider the statements:

Statement I: Samvidhan Diwas (Constitution Day) is celebrated on 26th November every year in India.

Statement II: On 26th November 1949, the final version of the Constitution was signed by the members of the Constituent Assembly.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II explains Statement-I

(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

40. What does the wheel on the 'Indian National Flag' symbolize?
(a) Freedom
(b) Justice
(c) Equality
(d) Brotherhood

41. The Preamble of the Constitution of India is inspired by the Objectives Resolution of 1946. In this context, which of the following is *incorrect*?

Both the Preamble and the Objectives Resolution-
(a) mentions India as sovereign & republic.
(b) guarantee social, economic and political justice to the citizens of India.
(c) guarantee equality of status and opportunity for the citizens of India.
(d) assure dignity of the individuals and the unity and integrity of the Nation.

42. Consider the following statements regarding the Constituent Assembly of India:
1. It was constituted based on the provisions of the Mountbatten Plan.
2. The representatives of the Provincial Legislative Assemblies to the Constituent Assembly were elected indirectly by their members.
3. The seats in the Constituent Assembly were allotted to the British Indian Provinces based on their population.
4. The representatives to the Constituent Assembly from Princely states were nominated by the rulers of Princely states.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

43. Consider the following pairs with reference to making of the Constitution of India:

Personality	Role in Constitution Making
1. K.M. Munshi	Member of the Drafting Committee of the Constitution
2. B.N. Rau	Constitutional Advisor to the Constituent Assembly
3. Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar	Chairman of the Steering Committee of the Constituent Assembly

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

44. Consider the following members of the Constituent Assembly of India:
1. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
2. N. Gopalaswamy Ayyangar
3. Alladi Krishnaswamy Ayyar
4. Dr. K.M. Munshi
5. Syed Mohammad Saadullah
6. N. Madhava Rau

How many of the above were members of the Drafting Committee of the Constitution?
(a) Only three
(b) Only four
(c) Only five
(d) All Six

45. Which of the following statements is *incorrect* regarding the representation of princely states in the Constituent Assembly of India?
(a) The representatives of the princely states were nominated by the rulers of the princely states.
(b) Under the Cabinet Mission Plan, the princely states were allotted 293 seats in the Constituent Assembly.
(c) The representatives of the princely states did not attend the first meeting of the Constituent Assembly.
(d) Mysore had the highest number of representatives in the Constituent Assembly among the princely states.

1.3. Salient Features/ Schedules/Parts of the Constitution

46. With reference to Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:
1. India being a Sovereign country can cede its territory in favour of a foreign state.
2. The Constitution is the result of rights of individuals which are enforced by the judiciary.

3. Before the addition of "socialist" to the preamble, constitution already had elements of socialism.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

47. The Indian Constitution is described as a living document because

(a) It is subject to constant amendments and changes.
(b) It adapts to evolving societal needs and values.
(c) It includes a detailed historical account of India's past.
(d) It is a charter of Indian values and principles.

48. Consider the following statements regarding the term 'Asymmetric Federalism':

1. In Asymmetric Federalism, a particular state can have greater executive powers than other states.
2. It overlooks the diverse cultural, linguistic, and historical differences among constituent units.
3. Indian Constitution provides for the Asymmetric federalism.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, and 3

49. With reference to 'Source of Indian Constitution', consider the following pairs:

Source	Features Borrowed
1. Irish Constitution	Fundamental duties and the ideal of justice
2. Canadian Constitution	Suspension of Fundamental Rights during Emergency
3. Australian Constitution	Joint sitting of the two Houses of Parliament
4. Soviet Constitution	Directive Principles of State Policy

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

50. With reference to Judiciary in India and United States of America, consider the following statements:

1. Unlike Indian Supreme Court, the Original Jurisdiction of American Supreme Court is confined to Centre-state disputes only.
2. Unlike the Supreme Court of India, the American Supreme Court does not have advisory jurisdiction.
3. Unlike American Supreme Court, the appellate jurisdiction of Indian Supreme Court is confined to constitutional cases only.
4. Unlike Indian Supreme Court, American Supreme Court has a wide discretion to grant special leave to appeal in any matter.

Which of the above given statements are ***not correct***?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

51. Why India is sometimes referred to as a 'quasi-federal' polity?

(a) In India, executive is responsible to the legislature for all its acts and policies.
(b) Indian constitution provides a Bicameral legislature for the Centre and the states.
(c) India is a federal country with balance of power tilted towards Centre.
(d) Indian constitution provides for division of power between the Centre and the states.

52. Consider the following statements regarding the Second Schedule and the Third Schedule of Indian Constitution:

1. Both the second and third schedules contain provisions related to the Vice President.
2. The President and the Governor of states are included only in the Second Schedule and not in the Third Schedule.
3. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India is included in both the Schedules.
4. Both the Schedules can be amended by a simple majority of the Parliament.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

53. With reference to the 'Source of various provisions of the Constitution of India', consider the following pairs:

Provision	Constitution from where it was adopted
1. Joint sitting of the Parliament	Australian Constitution
2. Procedure established by the law	British Constitution
3. Amendment procedure of the Constitution	Irish Constitution
4. Method of election of President	South African Constitution

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

54. Consider the following pairs with reference to the features of the Constitution of India:

Feature	Meaning	Borrowed From
1. Parliamentary form of Government	Council of Ministers is accountable to Lok Sabha	British Constitution
2. Prerogative writs	Written order issued by a court of higher authority against the breach of a citizen's rights	USA Constitution
3. Bicameralism	Division of administrative and legislative powers between Centre and States	Canadian Constitution

In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

55. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India has an integrated judicial system.

Statement-II: In India's judicial system, the decisions made by the higher courts are binding on the lower courts.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II ate correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

56. Consider the following constitutional authorities:

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India
4. Governors of States

The Third Schedule of the Constitution contains Forms of Oaths or Affirmations of how many of the above constitutional posts?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

57. Consider the following statements:

1. The power of judicial review of the Supreme Court of India is narrower than the Supreme Court of the United States of America.

2. Compared to the Parliament of Britain, Indian Parliament has limited powers regarding amending the Constitution.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

58. With reference to democracy, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The presence of 'Written Constitution' is one of the fundamental requirements of democracy.

Statement-II: A Written constitution limits the power of government and protects the basic rights of citizens.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

59. With reference to the purpose of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. It states the ideals and objectives that the nation seeks to achieve.
2. It outlines the fundamental structure of the government system.
3. It prevents the tyranny of the majority by protecting the rights of minorities.
4. It provides a basic framework for government authorities to form economic policies.

Which of the above statements are correct?
(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 2, 3 and 4
(c) 1, 3 and 4
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

60. With reference to the Universal Adult Franchise (UAF) in India, consider the following statements:

1. In addition to the right to vote, UAF also means that all adults have the right to contest in elections.
2. Gandhiji was against the idea of granting voting rights to illiterates.
3. Motilal Nehru Report of 1928 advocated for UAF.
4. India implemented the principle of UAF much before the United Kingdom.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 2 only

61. With reference to concept of the State and the Government, consider the following statements:

1. The State refers to a political institution that represents sovereign people occupying a definite territory, while the Government refers to a set of individuals who make and implement decisions.
2. While the Government derives its authority primarily from the Constitution, the State derives its authority mainly from membership of the United Nations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

62. Consider the following options:

1. Defined Territory
2. Organized Government
3. Sovereignty
4. Regular elections
5. Independent Judiciary

In the context of political theory, how many of the above are considered as essential elements of a State?
(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

63. In the context of the Constitution of India, consider the following pairs:

	Parts of the Constitution	Subject Matter
1.	Part X	The Scheduled and Tribal areas
2.	Part XV	Elections

3.	Part XVII	Emergency Provisions
4.	Part XX	The Union Territories

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

64. With reference to the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: It is considered as a living document.

Statement-II: It has been given the status of legal person by the Supreme Court of India.

Statement-III: It can be amended from time to time to accommodate the necessary changes in society.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, and both of them explain Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, but only one of them explains Statement-I.
(c) Only one of the Statement-II and Statement-III is correct and that explains the Statement-I.
(d) Neither Statement-II nor Statement-III is correct.

65. Consider the following statements about Constitutionalism:

1. It refers to the principle that authority of the government is derived from and limited by the fundamental law of the country.
2. A written constitution is essential to establish constitutionalism in a country.
3. Articles 13 and 32 of the Indian Constitution promotes the idea of constitutionalism in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

66. Consider the following pairs:

Features of the Indian Constitution	Borrowed/Inspired From
1. Emergency Provisions	Government of India Act, 1935
2. Method of Election of the President	Constitution of Ireland
3. Joint Sitting of the two houses of the Parliament	Constitution of South Africa
4. Procedure Established by Law	Constitution of Japan
5. Removal Process of Supreme Court Judges	Constitution of United States of America

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

67. Which of the following statements are correct about the Constitution of India?

1. Duties and Powers of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) are provided under Part V of the Constitution.
2. Elections related provisions are provided under Part XIV of the Constitution.
3. Provisions related to the Scheduled and Tribal Areas are provided under Part X of the Constitution.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

68. In the context of India, which of the following is the most logical and valid reason to conclude that the authority of the Constitution is higher than that of the Parliament?

(a) The constitution was approved by a national referendum, giving it supreme authority.
(b) The Constitution explicitly mentions that the Parliament cannot alter its basic structure.

(c) The Constitution specifies how Parliament is to be formed and defines its powers and limitations.
(d) The Constitution was enacted by a Constituent Assembly that represented the will of the people before Parliament existed.

69. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: Constitution of India provides for the establishment of an integrated judicial system.

Statement II: In India, single system of courts enforces both central laws and state laws.

Statement III: The Supreme Court is the highest court of appeal in India.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement II and Statements III are correct and both of them explain Statement I.
(b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I.
(c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I.
(d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct.

70. A political institution wherein a sovereign people occupy a definite territory is referred to as:
(a) State
(b) Nation
(c) Government
(d) Country

71. Consider the following pairs with reference to Schedules of the Constitution of India:

Schedule	Provide for
1. First Schedule	Names of states and Union Territories of India
2. Third Schedule	Form of oath or affirmation to be made by candidate for election to Parliament and State Legislatures
3. Fourth Schedule	Emoluments and Privileges for the Chairman of Rajya Sabha
4. Sixth Schedule	Administration of Tribal Areas of Nagaland, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh

Which of the pair given above are correctly matched?
(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 and 4 only

72. Which of the following describes the most significant advantage of the Parliamentary form of Government?
(a) It ensures the separation of powers between the executive and the legislature.
(b) It provides that the power is constitutionally divided between the national government and the regional governments.
(c) It establishes a responsible government whereby the executive is responsible to the legislature for its actions.
(d) It provides a stable government, thus ensuring the formulation and implementation of long-term policies.

73. In the context of Constitution of India, consider the following provisions:
1. The Centre altering the names and boundaries of States unilaterally.
2. Unequal representation of states in the Rajya Sabha.
3. Different federal arrangements for Union Territories compared to states.

How many of the above are examples of the asymmetric federalism in India?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

74. With reference to the Constitution of a country, consider the following statements:
1. Ensures that only people with good morals and values govern the country.
2. Limits the powers of the Government.
3. Provides for the Separation of powers between different organs of the State.
4. Provides a set of basic rules for minimal coordination amongst members of a society.

Which of the above are the functions of the constitution of any nation?

(a) 1, 3 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

75. With reference to Federalism in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution of India defines Federalism as "the existence of Governments at the Central as well as regional levels".
2. Federalism is essential for decentralisation of authority.
3. Seventh Schedule of Indian Constitution provides State Governments with their own sphere of authority.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

76. Which of the following offices are included in both the second and third schedule of the Constitution?

1. The Judges of the High Courts
2. The Judges of the Supreme Court
3. The Comptroller and Auditor-General of India
4. The Prime Minister's Office

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

1.4. Preamble

77. In the context of Indian polity, which one of the following is the most appropriate idea behind Indian Socialism?

(a) Nationalisation of all the means of production.
(b) Ownership of all the means of production by workers.
(c) Coexistence of both public and private sectors.
(d) Economic planning exclusively by the State to ensure inclusive growth of a country.

78. With reference to the Preamble of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. In the Kesavananda Bharati case, the Supreme court held that preamble is a part of the Indian constitution.
2. Certain provisions of the preamble may not be altered by a constitutional amendment act.
3. Since the enactment of the Indian Constitution, Preamble was amended only once.

Which of the statement/s given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

79. With reference to the distinct forms of Justice, consider the following statements:

1. Social Justice implies that all citizens are treated equally irrespective of their status in society.
2. Economic justice is considered as part of liberty without which equality of status and dignity of person is not possible.
3. Political justice proposes that the citizens of a country should have equal access to political offices.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

80. Consider the following statements about the Preamble of the Indian Constitution:

1. The Preamble was inspired by the United States of American Constitution.
2. It provides a standard for examining government laws and policies.
3. The Preamble is an important source of power for the legislature.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

81. Consider the following pairs with regard to the various terms in the Preamble of the Indian Constitution:

	Term in Preamble	Meaning/Implication
1	Sovereign	India has the authority to acquire foreign territories.
2.	Integrity	The Country must aim for equal distribution of the wealth generated.
3.	Socialist	There should be nationalization of all means of production and distribution.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

82. Consider the following pairs regarding the various types of instruments in Direct Democracy and their description:

Instrument	Description
1. Referendum	A procedure whereby a proposed legislation is referred to the electorate for settlement by their direct votes.
2. Initiative	A method by means of which the people can propose a bill to the legislature for enactment.
3. Recall	A method by means of which the voters can remove an officer before the expiry of his term.
4. Plebiscite	A method of obtaining the opinion of people on any issue of public importance.

How many of the above given pairs are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

83. Consider the following statements regarding 'Basic Structure Doctrine':
1. India is the only legal system in the world which defines the 'Basic Structure Doctrine' within the Constitution.
2. Singapore is the only country other than India to acknowledge Basic Structure Doctrine.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

84. Which of the following provisions of the Indian Constitution shows that India is a Secular State?
1. The State shall endeavour to secure for all the citizens a Uniform Civil Code.
2. Religious instructions shall be provided in educational institution maintained by the State.
3. Religious denomination shall have the right to manage its own religious affairs.
4. Citizens shall not be discriminated on ground of religion in respect of employment under the State.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 4 only

85. With reference to the Preamble of Indian constitution, consider the following statements:
1. It is a source of power for the legislature and the executive.
2. It can be used by the Judiciary for a legal interpretation of the constitution.
3. It has no legal effect independently of other parts of the Constitution.
4. It shall be enforceable by the courts in India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

86. Consider the following:
1. Universal adult franchise
2. Rule of law
3. Independence of judiciary
4. Prohibition of discrimination with citizens on certain grounds

How many of the above are the manifestations of the democratic character of the Indian polity?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

87. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Indian constitution declares India as a Republic.

Statement-II: The head of the state in India is elected and is not a hereditary position.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

88. Consider the following statements with respect to Secularism in Indian context:
1. Indian secularism allows the government to support reforms within the religions.
2. The constitution defines secularism as equal treatment of all religions.
3. Provisions relating to secularism were absent in the Nehru Committee Report of 1928.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None of the above

89. With reference to the Preamble of the Constitution of India, Consider the following statements:

Statement- I: It acts as a prohibition on the legislative power of the Parliament.

Statement-II: It serves as a guiding light for the interpretation of the Constitution.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

90. Consider the following statements:

In a democracy-
1. elections should be held in a timely manner.
2. each vote has equal value.
3. presence of a written constitution is mandatory.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

91. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) celebrated its 75th anniversary recently. In the context of the UDHR and India, consider the following statements:
1. The content of the Preamble of the Constitution of India was primarily inspired by the Preamble of the UDHR.
2. India played a critical role in getting women rights included in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

92. Preamble of Constitution of India provides information about how many of the following?
1. Source of the authority of the Constitution
2. Date of adoption of Constitution
3. Objectives of the Constitution
4. Nature of Indian state

Select the correct answer using codes given below:
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

93. Why is the State's intervention in religious customs considered necessary in the Indian context?

(a) To completely exclude religion from the state's affairs.
(b) To strengthen the control of religious organizations over individuals.
(c) To eradicate social evils and pervasive customs.
(d) To remove any obligation for respecting religious freedoms.

94. With reference to the democratic form of government, consider the following statements:

1. Holding regular elections that are free and impartial.
2. Ensuring every adult has an equal right to vote with equal voting value.
3. Adherence to the principle that no one is above the law.
4. The presence of an independent judiciary.

How many of the above are essential features of a democratic form of government?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

95. Which of the following is one of the features of Indian Secularism?

(a) The State avoids interference in religious matters of minorities but intervenes readily in religious matters of majority groups.
(b) The State provides equal treatment and respect to all religions.
(c) The State prohibits all religious groups in India from engaging in propagation of religion.
(d) There is a strict separation between the State and the religious institutions in India.

96. With reference to the Preamble of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. It by itself is not enforceable in a court of law.
2. It can be amended by a majority of the total members present and voting in each House of the Parliament.
3. In the State of Madras vs Srimati Champakam Dorairajan case (1951), the Supreme Court held that Preamble is the integral part of the Constitution.
4. Preamble of both the Constitution of India and that of the United States of America starts with "We the people".

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4
(c) 2, 3 and 4
(d) 1 and 3

97. In context of Indian polity, which one of the following statements best describes the term 'substantive equality'?

(a) Everyone must be treated equally irrespective of their social or economic background.
(b) Law must account for different backgrounds and historical injustices faced by persons.
(c) Equality of opportunity must be provided to everyone without concerns about equality of outcome.
(d) Equality should be ensured in the society without curbing the liberty of the individual to take initiatives.

98. In the context of Preamble of the Constitution of India, consider the following terms:

1. Socialist
2. Secular
3. Fraternity
4. Integrity
5. Dignity of the Individual

How many of the above terms were added to the Preamble by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

99. With reference to the Constitution of the India, consider the following :

1. Fundamental Rights
2. Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs)
3. Fundamental Duties

How many of the above reflect the secular nature of the Indian state?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

100. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: India is a Sovereign State.

Statement-II: No external power can dictate the Government of India.

Statement-III: People of India have supreme right to make decisions on internal as well as external matters.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) statements-II and statement-III are correct and both of them explain statement-I
(b) statements-II and statement-III are correct, but only one of them explains statement-I
(c) Only one of the statements II and III is correct and that explains statement-I
(d) Neither Statement -II nor Statement-III is correct

101. Consider the following statements regarding the amendment of the Preamble of India:

1. The Preamble can be amended by a majority of the then members present and voting in both houses of Parliament.
2. The Preamble has been amended only once through the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

102. In context of Indian Polity, the concept of 'Principled Distance' is related to-

(a) Separation of powers
(b) Secular nature of the state
(c) Restrictions on fundamental rights
(d) Federal structure of the state

103. In the context of polity, the term 'Harm Principle' is most closely associated to:

(a) Duties of citizens towards state and society
(b) Giving absolute preference to public welfare over the rights of individuals
(c) Imposition of constraints on the freedom of individuals
(d) Provision for certain social inequalities whose absence brings more harm than good

104. Consider the following regarding India:

1. The political sovereignty of India is vested in the people of the country.
2. The head of the state is always an elected individual.
3. The Indian Constitution provides for single citizenship.

Which of the above is/are the reasons behind India being described as a Republic?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

105. Which of the following objectives are embodied in the Preamble of the Indian Constitution?

1. Liberty of faith and worship
2. Equality of status and opportunity
3. Political and economic liberty
4. Fraternity assuring dignity of the individual

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

106. In essence, what does the rule of law mean?

(a) All laws apply equally to all citizens of the country, and no one is above the law.
(b) Laws must be made by keeping ethical values at the core.
(c) A law must give equality of opportunity to all without any discrimination.
(d) A law must be followed even if it is against the basic ethos of society.

107. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: India became a sovereign country on January 26, 1950, when the Constitution of India came into effect.

Statement II: An interim government, formed under the leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru in 1946, functioned as a sovereign body prior to India's independence.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.

(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

108. Which of the following principles uphold the essence of constitutionalism?
1. Rule of Law
2. Responsible government
3. Independent Judiciary

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

109. With reference to the Preamble of the Constitution of India, which of the following statements is correct?
(a) It is not considered as a part of the Constitution.
(b) It can be amended through a simple majority of Parliament.
(c) The prior assent of the President is required to amend the Preamble.
(d) The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act added the word 'integrity' to the Preamble.

1.5. Union and its territory

110. According to the Constitution of India, the expression 'Territory of India' includes which among the following?
1. The territories of the states
2. The Union territories
3. The territories that may be acquired by the government of India at any time.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

111. Consider the following statements about the procedure for reorganisation of states in India:
1. States in India can be reorganised by the Parliament only by amending the Constitution under article 368.
2. A bill for the reorganisation of states can be introduced in the Parliament only on the recommendation of the President.
3. The President before giving his recommendation shall refer the state reorganisation bill to the respective state legislature for expressing its view.
4. The President is bound by the views of the state legislature regarding the state reorganisation bill.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

112. If, in any case, India needs to cede some parts of its territory to any country, then it can be done through:
(a) The executive action of the Government of India.
(b) The Amendment of Constitution under Article 368.
(c) The Legislative action of the Parliament
(d) The Judicial Action under the purview of the Supreme Court.

113. Consider the following commissions and acts regarding the reorganisation of states in India:
1. Fazl Ali Commission
2. Dhar Commission
3. State Reorganisation Act
4. JVP Committee

Arrange the above in the correct chronological order of their establishment/passage:
(a) 2-4-1-3
(b) 1-3-4-2
(c) 2-1-4-3
(d) 3-2-4-1

114. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: Andhra State was the first linguistic state formed in independent India in 1953.

Statement II: Fazl Ali Commission accepted the theory of 'one language, one state' for the formation of states.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

115. Arrange the following regions in chronological order based on their accession to independent India:

1. Junagarh
2. Hyderabad
3. Manipur
4. Bhopal

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 4-3-1-2
(b) 3-4-2-1
(c) 1-2-4-3
(d) 1-3-4-2

116. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: In the Part I of the Constitution of India, the term "Union of States" was preferred over "Federation of States" by the constituent assembly.

Statement II: During emergency the federal structure in India converts into a unitary one, without a formal amendment of the Constitution.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

117. With regard to the comparison between states and Union Territories, consider the following statements:

1. Governor is the executive head of the state whereas the President is the executive head of the Union Territories.
2. The relationship between Centre and state is federal in character whereas in case of Union Territory, it is unitary in character.
3. The Chief Minister is the elected head of the state, while the Lieutenant Governor is the elected head of the Union Territory.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

118. Consider the following statements regarding the recommendations made by the Fazl Ali Commission (1953) on the reorganization of States:

1. It accepted 'Linguistic homogeneity' as the basis of reorganization of the States.
2. It provided for the partition of Bombay between Gujarati and Marathi speaking people.
3. It recommended the creation of a Sikh state for the Punjabi speaking population.
4. It rejected the demand to carve out tribal states from Assam and Bihar.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4
(c) 2, 3 and 4
(d) 1 and 3

119. Arrange the following states in a chronological order according to the year of formation as a state

1. Nagaland
2. Tripura
3. Himachal Pradesh
4. Mizoram

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1-2-3-4
(b) 1-3-2-4
(c) 3-1-2-4
(d) 3-2-1-4

120. Consider the following statements regarding the provisions for Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi:

1. The strength of the Council of Ministers of Government of NCT of Delhi is fixed at 15% of the total strength of the Legislative Assembly of Delhi.
2. The Chief Minister is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor.
3. The Ministers hold office during the pleasure of the Lieutenant Governor.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

121. Consider the following statements with regard to the ordinance making powers of Lieutenant Governor of Delhi:

1. S/he cannot promulgate ordinance when assembly is dissolved or suspended.
2. S/he is not permitted to withdraw any ordinance without the President's approval.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

122. In the context of Indian Polity, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The 'territory of India' is a wider expression than the 'Union of India'.

Statement-II: The territory of India includes what the Union of India includes along with the Union Territories and territories that may be acquired by the Government of India in future.

Statement-III: India being a sovereign state can acquire foreign territories according to the modes recognized by the International law.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, and both of them explain Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, but only one of them explains Statement-I.
(c) Only one of the Statement-II and Statement-III is correct and that explains the Statement-I.
(d) Neither Statement-II nor Statement-III is correct.

123. Consider the following schedules of Constitution of India :

1. First Schedule
2. Second Schedule
3. Fourth Schedule
4. Fifth Schedule

How many of the above schedules need to be amended when a new state is admitted or established under Article 2 of the Constitution of India?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

124. Article 1(1) of the Constitution of India says "India, that is Bharat, shall be a Union of States". In this context, why has the phrase 'Union of States' been preferred to 'Federation of States'?

1. During emergency the federal structure in India converts into a unitary one, without a formal amendment of the Constitution.
2. Indian Federation is the result of an agreement among the states.
3. The Indian states have no right to secede from the federation.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

1.6. Citizenship

125. With reference to the citizenship provisions in India, which one of the following statements is correct?

(a) If a person renounces his/her Indian Citizenship, his/her minor child continues to be Indian citizen till he/she attains the age of Eighteen.
(b) A person automatically loses his/her Indian Citizenship when he/she renounces his/her citizenship voluntarily during the time of a war involving India.
(c) A person loses his/her Indian citizenship, if he/she has been imprisoned for two years within five years after registration or naturalisation as a citizen.
(d) A person charged with sedition will lose his/her Indian citizenship immediately.

126. With reference to citizenship in India, consider the following statements:

1. Only the Parliament has the power to make laws related to citizenship.
2. Constitution of India specifies detailed provisions regarding various modes of acquiring citizenship after 26th January 1950.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

127. Consider the following statements regarding the differences between the Non-Resident Indians (NRI) and Overseas Citizens of India (OCI)

1. NRIs do not require permission from the Foreign Regional Registration Office (FRRO) for any length of stay in India while OCIs need to obtain permission for stay over 120 days in India.
2. NRIs can vote in elections to the Parliament and State assemblies while OCIs do not have any voting rights.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

128. The Citizenship Act 1955 mentions deprivation of citizenship as one way of termination of citizenship. In this context a citizen of India can be deprived of his/her Citizenship by the Central Government on which of the following grounds?

1. A citizen has obtained citizenship by fraud.
2. A citizen has shown disloyalty to the Constitution of India.
3. A citizen voluntarily acquires citizenship of another country.
4. A citizen has, within five years after registration or naturalization, been imprisoned in any country for two years.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 2 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

129. Which of the following authorities can provide for citizenship in case of acquisition of territory?

(a) Parliament of India
(b) Supreme Court of India
(c) Central Government
(d) All the citizens of acquired territory would automatically become citizens of India.

130. Consider the following statements:

An Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholder:

1. cannot vote in Lok Sabha elections.
2. cannot enrol in the National Pension Scheme.
3. can adopt children in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

131. Section 6A of the Citizenship Act, 1955, sometimes seen in the news, relates to:

The provision of:

(a) citizenship by descent for individuals born to Indian parents abroad.
(b) citizenship to refugees from Tibet who entered India before 1962.
(c) citizenship of persons covered by the Assam Accord.
(d) automatic cancellation of citizenship for individuals obtaining foreign citizenship.

132. The Citizenship Act, 1955 deals with the determination of citizenship on or after-

(a) 26th January 1950.
(b) 26th November 1949.
(c) 15th August 1947.
(d) 14th August 1947.

133. With reference to the Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) and Non-Resident Indian (NRI), consider the following statements:

1. Both NRIs and OCIs have the Right to Freedom under Article 19 of the Indian Constitution.
2. Unlike NRIs, OCIs are eligible to practice certain professions in India, such as doctors, lawyers, and architects.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

134. With reference to National Population Register (NPR) consider the following statements:

1. It is prepared under the provisions of Census Act, 1948.
2. It is prepared by the Office of the Registrar General under the Ministry of Home Affairs.
3. It is optional for a 'usual resident of India' to register in the NPR.
4. database would contain demographic as well as biometric details.

How many statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

135. The Citizenship Act of 1955 mentions 'deprivation of citizenship' as one way of termination of citizenship. In this context consider the following statements:

1. A citizen making a declaration for renunciation of his citizenship to the Central Government.
2. A citizen who has obtained citizenship by fraud.
3. A citizen who has voluntarily acquired citizenship of another nation.
4. A citizen who has shown disloyalty to the Constitution of India
5. A citizen who has been imprisoned for a term of at least 2 years in any country within 5 years of obtaining citizenship by registration or naturalisation.

In which of the above cases, a citizen of India can be deprived of his citizenship by the Central Government?

(a) 1, 3 and 5 only
(b) 2, 4 and 5 only
(c) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
(d) 2 and 4 only

136. With reference to the Citizenship Act of 1955, consider the following statements regarding the loss of citizenship:

1. Termination of citizenship takes place when a person renounces it by making a declaration to the Central Government.
2. Central Government can deprive a person of his/her citizenship if he/she has shown disloyalty to the Constitution of India.
3. Termination of citizenship takes place automatically even if a person acquires citizenship of another country under undue influence.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

137. Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution explicitly empowers only the President of India to notify rules for all the matters relating to citizenship.
2. The Freedoms under Article 19 of the Constitution are available only to citizens and not to non-citizens.
3. Only an Indian citizen can become a Judge of the Supreme Court.
4. person is not eligible to be appointed as the President of India if he has acquired citizenship by naturalization.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

138. Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding obtaining citizenship when there is an incorporation of foreign territory into the Indian Union?

1. The Constitution provides for granting citizenship in case a foreign territory is incorporated into the Indian Union.
2. The residents of any incorporated territory automatically become the Indian citizens.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

139. Which of the following persons were eligible to be the citizens of India at the time of commencement of the Constitution?

1. A person domiciled in India and either of his parents were born in India.
2. A person of Indian origin domiciled outside India.
3. A person not of Indian origin and domiciled outside India.
4. A person migrated to Pakistan but returned to India for resettlement.

Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:

(a) 1, 3 and 4 only
(b) 1 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

140. Which of the following rights and privileges are available exclusively to citizens of India?

1. Only Citizens have the right to property in India.
2. Only Citizens have the Right to vote in India.

3. Only Citizens can become the President of India.
4. Only Citizens can become the Attorney General of India.
5. Only Citizens can become the Member of Parliament in India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
(b) 3,4 and 5 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

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SOLUTIONS

1.1. Historical Background & Colonial rule

1. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Government of India Act of 1919 was enacted on the basis of declaration of 1917 by the British Government. This declaration stated, for the first time, that the objective of British government was the gradual introduction of responsible Government in India.

Statement 1 is correct. Government of India Act, 1919 relaxed the central control over the provinces by demarcating and separating the central and provincial subjects. It **introduced the dual system of governance known as dyarchy** for the provinces of British India. It further **divided the provincial subjects** into two parts– **transferred and reserved.** The transferred subjects were to be administered by the Governor with the aid of Ministers responsible to the legislative council. The reserved subjects, on the other hand, were to be administered by the Governor and his executive council without being responsible to the legislative council.

Statement 2 is correct. The Government of India Act of 1919 introduced, **for the first time, bicameralism and direct elections** in the country. Thus, the Indian legislative council was replaced by a bicameral legislature consisting of an Upper House (Council of State) and a Lower House (Legislative Assembly). The **majority of members** of both the Houses were **chosen by direct election.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. Indian Councils Act of 1909 (and not Government of India Act, 1919) introduced a system of communal representation for Muslims by accepting the concept of 'separate electorate'. Under this, the Muslim members were to be elected only by Muslim voters. Thus, the Act 'legalised communalism' and Lord Minto came to be known as the Father of Communal Electorate. The Government of India Act of 1919 **extended** this principle of communal representation by providing **separate electorates for Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians and Europeans.**

Statement 4 is incorrect. Indian Councils Act of 1909 (and not Government of India Act, 1919) provided (for the first time) for the association of Indians with the executive councils of the Viceroy and Governors. Satyendra Prasad Sinha became the first Indian to join the Viceroy's executive council. He was appointed as the Law Member. The Government of India Act, 1919 required that the three of the six members of the Viceroy's executive Council (other than the Commander-in-Chief) were to be Indian.

Statement 5 is correct. The Government of India Act, 1919 granted franchise to a limited number of people on the basis of property, tax or education. Though they were not granted voting rights, nor the right to stand in elections, the Government of India Act 1919 **allowed Provincial Councils to determine if women could vote,** provided they met stringent property, income, or educational levels. Between 1919 and 1929, **all of the British Provinces, as well as most of the Princely states granted women the right to vote** and, in some cases, allowed them to stand in local elections. Thus, it **provided for limited voting rights to women.**

Important Tips

Other features of Government of India Act, 1919:

- It created a new office of the High Commissioner for India in London.
- It provided for the establishment of a public service commission. Hence, a **Central Public Service Commission was set up** in 1926 for recruiting civil servants.
- It **separated, for the first time, provincial budgets from the Central budget** and authorised the provincial legislatures to enact their budgets.
- It provided for the **appointment of a statutory commission** to inquire into and report on its working after ten years of its coming into force.

2. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Charter Act of 1833 was a significant milestone in the history of British India as it established the framework for the modern administrative structure of India and initiated the process of constitutional reforms. It also paved the way for the eventual transfer of power from the East India Company to the British Crown.

Features of the Charter Act of 1833:

1. **It made the Governor-General of Bengal as the Governor-General of India** and vested in him all civil and military powers. Thus, the act created, for the first time, a Government of India having authority over the entire territorial area possessed by the British in India. Lord William Bentick was the first governor-general of India.
2. **It deprived the governor of Bombay and Madras of their legislative powers.** The Governor-General of India was given exclusive legislative powers for the entire British India. The laws made under the previous acts were called as Regulations while laws made under this act were called as Acts.
3. It ended the activities of the East India Company as a commercial body, which became a purely administrative body. It provided that the company's territories in India were held by it 'in trust for His Majesty, His heirs and successors'.
4. The Charter Act of 1833 attempted to introduce a system of open competition for selection of civil servants, and stated that the Indians should not be debarred from holding any place, office and employment under the

Company. However, this provision was negated after opposition from the Court of Directors

3. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Indian Councils Act of 1861 was a significant act in India's history. It was passed by the British Parliament on August 1, 1861. The act's main objectives were to create an institutionalized council that includes Indians and gain support from Indians to continue British operations.

Statement 1 is correct: The **Indian Councils Act of 1861 formalized the portfolio system in India. Lord Canning had already implemented the system in 1859**, assigning specific departments to council members. The **Act provided legal backing to this structure**, making it an **official part of the governance system**.

Statement 2 is correct: It **empowered the Viceroy to issue ordinances, without the concurrence of** the **legislative council, during an emergency.** The **life** of such an **ordinance was six months**. It **empowered the Viceroy to make rules and orders** for the more convenient transaction of business in the council.

Statement 3 is correct: It made a **beginning of representative institutions** by **associating Indians** with the **law-making process**. It thus **provided that the viceroy should nominate some Indians** as **non-official members of his expanded council**. In 1862, **Lord Canning**, the then viceroy, nominated three Indians to his legislative council—the **Raja of Benaras**, the **Maharaja of Patiala** and **Sir Dinkar Rao**.

Statement 4 is incorrect: It **initiated the process of decentralisation** by **restoring the legislative powers to the Bombay and Madras Presidencies**. It thus **reversed the centralising tendency** that **started** from the **Regulating Act of 1773** and **reached its climax under the Charter Act of 1833**. This **policy of legislative devolution** resulted in the **grant of almost complete internal autonomy** to the provinces in 1937.

Important Tips

1. **Indian Councils Act of 1892:** Increased the number of members in both the central and provincial legislative councils, allowing for a slightly larger Indian presence.
2. **Indian Councils Act of 1909 (Morley-Minto Reforms):** Introduced a separate electorate for Muslims in an attempt to divide the nationalist movement. It also marginally increased the number of elected members in the councils.

4. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Charter Act of 1833, also known as the Saint Helena Act 1833 renewed the East India Company's charter for two decades.

Statement 1 is incorrect- The Charter Act of 1833 converted the post of **Governor General of Bengal into Governor General of India.** William Bentick was made the first Governor General of India. On the other, the Government of India Act, 1858 converted the post of Governor General of India into Viceroy of India. Lord Canning was the first Viceroy of India.

Statement 2 is incorrect- The Charter Act of 1833 **tried to introduce open competition for civil services but failed.** The Act stated that Indians should not be debarred from holding any place, office, and employment under the company. However, it did not provide for any specific mechanism to ensure that Indians were given equal opportunities in the civil services.

5. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

The Amending Act of 1781, also known as the Act of Settlement 1781, aimed to rectify the deficiencies of the Regulating Act of 1773. It clarified the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court in Calcutta, exempting the Governor-General and company officials' actions in their official capacity from its purview, and established a clearer separation between the company's administrative and judicial functions. This act was pivotal in defining the legal framework within British India, balancing the application of British law and traditional Indian laws.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Act modified the appellate system by excluding the Supreme Court from hearing appeals from Provincial Courts. Instead, it directed that appeals from Provincial Courts should be taken to the Governor-General-in-Council. This change was intended to streamline the appeals process and reduce the Supreme Court's burden.

Statement 2 is incorrect: According to the Pitt's India Act of 1784, a new body "Board of Control" was created to manage the Political affairs of the company, and the commercial affairs are handled by the Court of Directors. Hence, the Board of Control handling the Political affairs was provided under the Pitt's India act of 1784 and not under the Amending Act of 1781.

Statement 3 is correct: The Governor-General and Council were exempted from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court for actions done in their official capacity. By exempting the Governor-General and Council's official actions from the Supreme Court's jurisdiction, the act aimed to clarify the separation of powers between administrative and judicial functions.

6. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The **Regulating Act of 1773 was the first step taken by the British Parliament** to control and regulate the affairs of the East India Company in India. It recognised, for the first time, the political and administrative functions of the Company and **laid the foundations of central administration in India.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The **Regulating Act of 1773 did provide for the establishment of a Supreme Court**

at Calcutta (1774) comprising one chief justice and three other judges. However, it was the **Amending Act of 1781,** also known as the Act of Settlement, **that exempted the Governor-General of Bengal** and his Council **from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court** for the acts done by them in their official capacity. Similarly, it also exempted the servants of the company from the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court for their official actions.

Statement 3 is correct: The Regulating Act of 1773 **prohibited the servants of the Company from engaging in any private trade** or accepting presents or bribes **from the 'natives'.**

Important Tips

Other Features of the Regulating Act of 1773:

- Designated the Governor of Bengal as the 'Governor-General of Bengal' and created an Executive Council of four members to assist him. The first such Governor-General was Lord Warren Hastings.
- Governors of Bombay and Madras presidencies made subordinate to the Governor-General of Bengal.
- Required the Court of Directors (governing body of the Company) to report on its revenue, civil and military affairs in India.

7. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **Government of India Act of 1935 introduced the principle of constitutional autocracy,** which meant that the executive authority of the provinces and the center was vested in the Governors and the Governor-General respectively, on behalf of the British Crown. The Act gave them absolute power over all matters of administration and legislation, and they were not accountable to any elected body or the people.

8. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The East India Company Act of 1784, commonly referred to as **Pitt's India Act,** was enacted by the British Parliament. It introduced a system of **dual control** over British territories in India, shared between the British government and the East India Company, with ultimate authority vested in the government. This arrangement remained in force until 1858.

Statement 1 is correct- The Pitts India Act, 1784 led to the formation of a government body by the British government known as **Board of Control.** This body was charged with regulating the political affairs of the East India Company. The other body, **Court of Directors** was incharged with commercial affairs of the East India Company. **Thus, it separated commercial and political functions** of the East India Company.

Statement 2 is incorrect- Regulating Act of 1773 (and not Pitts India Act) provided for the establishment of a Supreme Court at Calcutta (1774). It comprised of one chief justice and three other judges.

Statement 3 is incorrect- The **Charter Act of 1833 deprived Madras and Bombay Presidency of its legislative powers** in India. On the other hand, The Regulating Act of 1773 **made** Bombay and Madras Presidency subordinate to the **Bengal** Presidency but did not deprive them of their **legislative** powers and it continued in the Pitts India Act, 1784.

9. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

At the time of colonial rule, India was divided into two parts, British Indian Provinces, and the Indian Princely States. The Government of India act, 1935 was a milestone in the development of a responsible constitutional government in India. One of its provisions included Provision for the establishment of a "Federation of India", to be made up of both British India and some or all of the "princely states".

Statement 1 is incorrect: As per the act, accession to the Federation was voluntary in the case of an Indian State and it was depended upon the option of the Ruler of the State. Whereas accession to the Federation was compulsory or automatic in case of Provinces.

Statement 2 is incorrect: According to the act, in the case of the provinces, the authority of the Federation over the Provinces **(executive as well as legislative)** extended over the whole of the federal sphere outlined by the Act. Whereas in the case of the Indian States, the authority of the Federation could be limited by the Instrument of Accession.

Important Tips

Federal features under Government of India Act 1935:

1. **All India Federation:** It provided for the establishment of an All-India Federation consisting of the British India Provinces and other Indian states. The States were absolutely free to join or not to join the proposed Federation. The rulers of Indian states never gave their consent and thus, the Federation envisaged by the Act never came into being.
2. **Provincial Autonomy:** The Act divided legislative powers between the provincial and central legislatures and within their defined sphere the provinces they were autonomous units of administration. The Ministers were not absolutely free in matter of running their departments. The Governors continued to possess a set of overriding powers.
3. **Setting up of a federal legislature:** Bicameralism was introduced. It envisaged setting up a council of states and federal assembly, with reservations in the Council of states for minorities, women and depressed classes.
4. **Distribution of Legislative Power:** The act made a three-fold division of powers between the Centre and the Provinces- federal list, provincial list and concurrent list. The subjects which were of all-India interest and demanded uniform treatment were put in the federal list.
5. **Setting up of a federal court:** A Federal court was also envisaged to be set up under this act.

10. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Government of India Act of 1935 was a landmark legislation introduced by the British colonial government, aimed at progressing toward the establishment of a fully responsible government in India. This Act incorporated several significant features that laid the foundation for key political and administrative reforms in independent India.

Option 1 is correct: The Government of India Act of 1935 replaced dyarchy in the provinces with the concept of 'provincial autonomy.' **It established responsible governments in the provinces**, requiring the Governor to act on the advice of ministers who were accountable to the provincial legislature. This system was implemented in 1937 but was discontinued in 1939.

Option 2 is correct: The **Government of India Act, 1935** expanded the electoral participation of women and **provided reserved seats** for them in the **provincial legislatures**.

Option 3 is incorrect: The Government of India Act of 1919(not Government of India Act 1935) **introduced bicameralism and direct elections at the central level in India**, replacing the Indian Legislative Council with a bicameral legislature consisting of an Upper House (Council of State) and a Lower House (Legislative Assembly). Building on this, the Government of India Act of 1935 extended bicameralism to six of the eleven provinces, namely Bengal, Bombay, Madras, Bihar, Assam, and the United Provinces

11. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

After the great revolt of 1857, the British Government felt the necessity of seeking the cooperation of the Indians in the administration of their country. In pursuance of this policy of association, three acts were enacted by the British Parliament in 1861, 1892 and 1909. The Indian Councils Act of 1861 is an important landmark in the constitutional and political history of India.

Statement 1 is correct: Indian Councils Act of 1861 restored the legislative powers to the Bombay and Madras Presidencies. The act **restored the legislative powers to the Bombay and Madras Presidencies,** which had been taken away by the Charter Act of 1833. The Governor-General's Legislative Council, which was created by the Charter Act, had monopolized the legislative power in India.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Government of India Act of 1858 (not Indian Councils Act of 1861) **established a 15-member Council of India to assist the secretary of state for India.** The council was an advisory body. The secretary of state was made the chairman of the council.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Indian Council Act of 1858, also known as the Government of India Act 1858, ended the system of **double government by abolishing the Board of Control and Court of Directors**. The Indian Council Act of 1861 did not make any changes in this regard.

Statement 4 is correct: The Indian Council Act of 1861 empowered the Viceroy to make rules and orders for the more convenient transaction of business in the council. It also gave a recognition to the **'portfolio' system, introduced by Lord Canning in 1859**. Under this, a member of the Viceroy's council was made in-charge of one or more departments of the government and was authorised to issue final orders on behalf of the council on matters of his department(s). It **empowered the Viceroy to issue ordinances, without the concurrence of the legislative council**, during an emergency. The life of such an ordinance was six months

12. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

With the adoption of the **Constitution of India** on **January 26, 1950**, several pre-existing laws and acts that governed India during British rule and the interim period were repealed to make way for a fully sovereign and independent legal framework.

Option 1 is correct: Indian Independence Act, 1947 was passed by the **British Parliament** to grant independence to India and Pakistan on **August 15, 1947**. It provided for the division of British India, the establishment of two independent dominions, and the abolition of British sovereignty over India. With the adoption of the Constitution of India in 1950, this Act became obsolete and was formally repealed by **Article 395** of the Constitution.

Option 2 is correct: Government of India Act, 1935 was the **most comprehensive legal framework** for British India, providing for a federal structure, provincial autonomy, and the establishment of the Federal Court. It served as the **interim constitution** of India until the **Constitution of India** came into effect. The enactment of the Indian Constitution rendered it irrelevant, leading to its repeal under **Article 395**.

Option 3 is incorrect: Before 1950, the **Privy Council in London** was the highest judicial authority for India. Abolition of Privy Council Jurisdiction Act, 1949 was passed to **abolish appeals to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council**, making the **Supreme Court of India** the highest judicial authority. This Act was enacted to abolish appeals to the **Judicial Committee of the Privy Council** and continued to remain in force.

13. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Option 1 is correct: The Government of India Act, 1935 provided for the establishment of a Reserve Bank of India to control the currency and credit of the country.

Option 2 is correct: The Government of India Act, 1935 provided for the establishment of a Federal Court, which was set up in 1937.

Option 3 is correct: The **Government of India Act, 1935 provided for the establishment of the Federal Railway Authority.** The Authority was responsible for the management of the Indian Railways. It was to be established as an independent body and was not under the control of the Council of Ministers or the central government.

Option 4 is correct: The Government of India Act, 1935 provided for the establishment of not only a **Federal Public Service Commission** but also a Provincial Public Service Commissions and Joint Public Service Commission for two or more provinces.

14. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect. Indian Councils Act of 1861 did not provide for Indians in the executive councils. Rather the Indian Councils Act of 1861 for the first time allowed Indians to join **the Indian legislative councils.** In 1862, Lord Canning, the then Viceroy, nominated three Indians to his legislative council–the Raja of Benaras, the Maharaja of Patiala and Sir Dinkar Rao. **Option b is correct. The Indian Councils Act of 1909,** also known as the **Morley-Minto Reforms,** was the legislation that explicitly allowed for the **first time** the formal association of **Indians with the executive councils** of the Viceroy and Governors. Under these reforms, **Satyendra Prasanna Sinha** became the first Indian to join the Viceroy's Executive Council in 1909 as a law member.

Option c is incorrect. Indian Councils Act of 1892 increased Indian representation within legislative councils and introduced **indirect elections,** but it did not address the executive councils.

Option d is incorrect. Government of India Act of 1919 expanded Indian participation through the **dyarchy system** at the provincial level but was not the first to associate Indians with the Viceroy's Executive Council.

15. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. It was the Indian Councils Act of 1892 which increased the functions of legislative councils and gave them the **power of discussing the budget and addressing questions to the executive.**

The other features of this Act were as follows:

1. It increased the number of additional (non-official) members in the Central and provincial legislative councils but maintained the official majority in them.
2. It provided for the nomination of some non-official members of the (a) Central Legislative Council by the viceroy on the recommendation of the provincial legislative councils and the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and (b) that of the provincial legislative councils by the Governors on the recommendation of the district boards, municipalities, universities, trade associations, zamindars and chambers. 'The **act made a limited and indirect provision for the use of election** in filling up some of the non-official seats both in the Central and provincial legislative councils. The **word "election" was, however, not used in the Act. The process was described as nomination made on the recommendation of certain bodies.**'

Statement 2 is correct. The Simon commission submitted its report in 1930 and recommended the abolition of dyarchy, **extension of responsible Government in the provinces,** establishment of a federation of British India and princely states, **continuation of communal electorate** and so on. To consider the proposals of the commission, the British Government convened three round table conferences. **The recommendations of this committee were incorporated (with certain changes) in the next Government of India Act of 1935.**

16. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: The provisions of Fundamental rights, independence of judiciary, judicial review, impeachment of the president, removal of Supreme Court and high court judges and post of vice president etc. has been borrowed from US constitution.

Option b is correct: The provisions of **Federal Scheme, Office of governor, Judiciary, Public Service Commissions, Emergency provisions** and **administrative details** are borrowed from Government of India Act,1935.

Option c is incorrect: The provisions of Concurrent List, freedom of trade, commerce and inter-course, and joint sitting of the two Houses of Parliament are borrowed from Australian constitution.

Option d is incorrect: The provisions of Parliamentary government, Rule of Law, legislative procedure, single citizenship, cabinet system, prerogative writs, parliamentary privileges and bicameralism, has been borrowed from British constitution.

1.2. Constituent Assembly

17. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

It was in 1934 that the idea of a Constituent Assembly for India was **put forward for the first time by M. N. Roy, a pioneer of communist movement in India.** In 1935, the Indian National Congress (INC), for the first time, officially demanded a Constituent Assembly to frame the Constitution of India. The Constituent Assembly was constituted in November 1946 under the scheme formulated by the Cabinet Mission Plan.

Statement 1 is correct: The Indian Independence Act of 1947 made the changes in the position of the Assembly. It was made a fully sovereign body, which could frame any Constitution it pleased. The act empowered the **Assembly to abrogate or alter any law made by the British Parliament in relation to India.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: After the acceptance of the Mountbatten Plan of June 3, 1947 for a partition of the country, the representatives of most of the other princely states took their seats in the Assembly. The **members of the Muslim League from the Indian Dominion also entered the Assembly.** The Muslim League members (hailing from the areas included in the Pakistan) withdrew from the Constituent Assembly for India.

Statement 3 is correct: Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected as the President of the Assembly. Similarly, **both H.C. Mukherjee and V.T. Krishnamachari were elected as the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly**. In other words, the Assembly had two Vice-Presidents.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The Assembly also became a legislative body. In other words, two separate functions were assigned to the Assembly, that is, making of a constitution for free India and enacting of ordinary laws for the country. These two tasks were to be performed on separate days. Thus, the Assembly became the first Parliament of free India (Dominion Legislature). Whenever the Assembly met as the Constituent body it was chaired by Dr. Rajendra Prasad and **when it met as the legislative body, it was chaired by G V Mavlankar**. These two functions continued till November 26, 1949, when the task of making the Constitution was over.

Dr Sachchidanand Sinha, the oldest member, was elected as the temporary President of the Assembly, following the French practice.

18. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect. The "Objective Resolution" was a significant document **presented by Jawaharlal Nehru**, the first Prime Minister of India, on December 13, 1946, to the Constituent Assembly of India. It laid down the fundamental principles and objectives that would guide the framing of the Indian Constitution.

Option b is incorrect. The Objective Resolution, presented by Jawaharlal Nehru to the Indian Constituent Assembly, **did not explicitly mention the term "Parliamentary government."** However, it did outline the overarching principles of democracy and representative government, which are closely associated with the concept of a parliamentary system.

Option c is correct. The Objective resolution provided adequate **safeguards for minorities, backward and tribal areas**, and depressed and other backward classes. It also ensures that all Indians shall be guaranteed and secured social, economic, and political justice; equality of status and opportunities.

Option d is incorrect. The Objective Resolution was **not a legally binding part of the Constitution.** It served as a guiding document for framing the Preamble and the Constitution but did not have legal force on its own. The resolution was adopted on January 22, 1947.

19. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The 'Objectives Resolution' was moved by **Jawaharlal Nehru** in the Constituent Assembly in December, 1946. It laid down the fundamentals and **philosophy of the constitutional structure.**

This Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Assembly on January 22, 1947. Its modified version forms the Preamble of the present Constitution.

Statement 1 is correct. Under the Objectives resolution, the Constituent Assembly declared its firm and solemn resolve to proclaim India as an **Independent Sovereign Republic** and to draw up for her future governance a constitution

Statement 2 is correct. It provides that adequate safeguards shall be provided for minorities, backward and tribal areas, and depressed and other backward classes.

Statement 3 is correct. It guaranteed and secured to all the people of India **justice, social, economic and political; equality of status of opportunity, and before the law;** freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith, worship, vocation, association and action, subject to law and public morality.

20. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: In 1934, the concept of an Indian Constituent Assembly was initially proposed by M.N. Roy, a prominent figure in the Indian communist movement. In 1935, the Indian National Congress (INC) formally called for a Constituent Assembly to draft India's Constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Constituent Assembly of India was constituted in November 1946, **under the scheme formulated by the Cabinet Mission Plan, not the Wavell Plan.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: The first meeting of the Constituent Assembly of India was held on **December 9, 1946, not November 9, 1945.** The Constituent Assembly **held 11 sessions over a period of two years, 11 months, and 18 days.**

21. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Constituent Assembly was constituted in November 1946 under the scheme formulated by the Cabinet Mission Plan.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Each province and princely state (or group of states in case of small states) were to be **allotted seats in proportion to their respective population**. Roughly, one seat was to be allotted for every million population.

Statement 2 is correct: The representatives of princely states of the constituent assembly were to be **nominated by the heads of the princely states**. 93 out of 389 seats were allocated to the Princely States.

Statement 3 is correct: Seats allocated to each **British province were to be divided among the three principal communities—Muslims, Sikhs and general** (all except Muslims and Sikhs), in proportion to their population. The representatives of each community were to be elected by members of that community in the provincial legislative assembly and voting was to be by the method of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote.

Statement 4 is correct: The total strength of the Constituent Assembly was to be 389. Of these, 296 seats were to be allotted to British India and 93 seats to the Princely States. Out of 296 seats allotted to the British India, 292 members

were to be drawn from the eleven governors' provinces and **four from the four chief commissioners' provinces, one from each**. These include Delhi, Ajmer–Merwara, Coorg and British Baluchistan. **Chief Commissioner's Province** refers to middle-level and minor type of provinces of India and in the post-colonial successor states, not headed by a (lieutenant-)governor but by a Chief commissioner.

22. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Constitution as adopted on November 26, 1949, contained a Preamble, 395 Articles and 8 Schedules. The Preamble was enacted after the entire Constitution was already enacted.

Options 1, 2 and 4 are correct: Some provisions of the Constitution pertaining **to citizenship, elections, provisional parliament, temporary and transitional provisions,** and short title contained in Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 60, 324, 366, 367, 379, 380, 388, 391, 392 and 393 (these provisions are related to citizenship, elections, provisional parliament, temporary and transitional provision) came into force on November 26, 1949 itself.

The **remaining provisions (the major part) of the Constitution came into force on January 26, 1950.** This day is referred to in the Constitution as the 'date of its commencement', and celebrated as the Republic Day.

Options 3, 5 and 6 are incorrect: The provisions of Directive Principles of State Policy and Fundamental Rights came into force on January 26, 1950 **Planning Commission was an extra constitutional body.**

23. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Constituent Assembly appointed a number of committees to deal with different tasks of constitution-making. Out of these, eight were major committees and the others were minor committees.

The **committees headed by Dr. Rajendra Prasad were:**

1. Rules of Procedure Committee – Dr. Rajendra Prasad (Major Committee)
2. Steering Committee – Dr. Rajendra Prasad (Major Committee)
3. Finance and Staff Committee – Dr. Rajendra Prasad
4. Ad-hoc Committee on the National Flag – Dr. Rajendra Prasad

Option 1 and 2 are incorrect: Union Powers Committee was headed by Jawaharlal Nehru; Provincial Constitution Committee was headed by Sardar Patel.

Important Tips

Major Committees of Constituent Assembly:

1. Union Powers Committee – Jawaharlal Nehru
2. Union Constitution Committee – Jawaharlal Nehru
3. Provincial Constitution Committee – Sardar Patel
4. Drafting Committee – Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
5. Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities and Tribal and Excluded Areas – Sardar Patel. This committee had the following five sub-committees:
   (a) Fundamental Rights Sub-Committee – J.B. Kripalani
   (b) Minorities Sub-Committee – H.C. Mukherjee
   (c) North-East Frontier Tribal Areas and Assam Excluded & Partially Excluded Areas Sub-Committee – Gopinath Bardoloi
   (d) Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas (Other than those in Assam) Sub-Committee – A.V. Thakkar
   (e) North-West Frontier Tribal Areas Sub-Committee
6. Rules of Procedure Committee – Dr. Rajendra Prasad
7. States Committee (Committee for Negotiating with States) – Jawaharlal Nehru
8. Steering Committee – Dr. Rajendra Prasad

24. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

At the stroke of midnight of 14-15 August, 1947, the British rule came to an end and power was transferred to the two new independent Dominions of India and Pakistan. Jawaharlal Nehru became the first Prime Minister of independent India and the new Cabinet started functioning from August 15,1947.

Pair 1 is incorrect. Home Affairs was under the charge of **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (not Jawaharlal Nehru).** Jawaharlal Nehru was the first Prime Minister and in charge of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations; Scientific Research.

Pair 2 is correct. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was in charge of Home; Information and Broadcasting; States.

Pair 3 is correct. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur was given the 'Health' portfolio.

Pair 4 is incorrect. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was given the charge of Education while Dr Rajendra Prasad had Food and agriculture portfolio.

Important Tips

Other Members and their portfolios:

- Dr John Matthai: Railways and Transport.
- Sardar Baldev Singh: Defence.
- Shri Jagjivan Ram: Labour.
- Mr C.H. Bhabha: Commerce.
- Mr Rafi Ahmad Kidwai: Communications.
- Dr B.R Ambedkar: Law.
- Shri R.K. Shanmukham Chetty: Finance.
- Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherji: Industries and Supplies.
- Shri N. V. Gadgil: Works, Mines and Power.

25. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (1875-1950) was a leader of the freedom movement. He also took charge of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. He was part of Indian National congress and follower of Mahatma Gandhi. He earned the reputation of 'Iron Man' because of the way he brought and maintained internal stability as Home Minister during the partition of the country.

Option a is incorrect: Jawaharlal Nehru (1889-1964), the first prime minister of free India. Jawaharlal Nehru introduced the "Objectives Resolution" in the Constituent Assembly. He was the chairman of major committees under constituent assembly such as **Union Constitution Committee and Union power committee.**

Option b is incorrect: J.P. Kripalani (1888-1982) was one of the important personalities in Indian freedom struggle. He was the head of **Fundamental Rights Sub-Committee** which was one of the **subcommittees of Advisory committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities, Provincial Constitution.**

Option c is correct: Sardar Patel was India's Deputy Prime Minister and the Home Minister during the crucial period immediately following Independence. **He played a historic role in negotiating with the rulers of princely states and bringing most of them into the Indian Union. He was a chairman of important committees of the Constituent Assembly such as Advisory committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities, Provincial Constitution** and committee on Provincial Constitution Committee.

Option d is incorrect: The Constitution was framed by the Constituent Assembly of India, established by the members of the provincial assemblies elected by the people of India. **Dr Sachchidanand Sinha,** the oldest member, was elected as the **temporary President of the Assembly,** following the **French practice**. Later, **Dr Rajendra Prasad was elected its president.**

26. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

Karl Marx, a 19th-century philosopher, economist, and revolutionary, co-authored "The Communist Manifesto," advocating for socialism, critiquing capitalism, and emphasizing class struggle, aiming for a classless, stateless society.

B.R. Ambedkar was a visionary leader, social reformer, and principal architect of the Indian Constitution, championing equality, social justice, and the rights of marginalized communities, especially Dalits, and advocating for education and economic empowerment.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Marx viewed religion as a tool of oppression that justified the inequalities of capitalism by promising the oppressed a better life in the afterlife, rather than encouraging them to seek justice in the current world. **He famously called religion "the opium of the people." Thus, Marx advocated for a society where religion would no longer play this role, aligning with the idea of abdicating religion from societal functions.**

While Ambedkar was a staunch critic of the caste system and its religious justifications, his approach towards religion was more nuanced than outright abdication. He believed in reforming society and religion to eradicate its discriminatory practices. **His conversion to Buddhism with his followers was an act of rejecting the caste-based discrimination inherent in Hinduism rather than a rejection of religion itself. Therefore, Ambedkar did not advocate for the complete abdication of religion from society.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Marx's vision of a communist society indeed included the eventual dissolution of the state. He believed that the state is a tool of class oppression and that a truly classless society would not require a state, as the state's primary functions of enforcing property rights and class distinctions would become obsolete.

Ambedkar's work focused on achieving social justice within the framework of a sovereign, democratic state. He was instrumental in drafting the Indian Constitution, which aimed at creating a society based on principles of justice, equality, and fraternity within a structured governmental framework. **His advocacy for the rights of the marginalized and his emphasis on constitutional means to achieve social reform indicate that he did not support the establishment of a stateless society.**

27. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Interim Government of India was formed in 1946, during the final stages of British rule in India. It included key leaders from the Indian National Congress and other political parties. The Interim Government operated until India gained independence from British rule on August 15, 1947.

Option a is incorrect: Chittaranjan Das, also known as Deshbandhu, was not a member of the interim government formed in 1946. He was a prominent Indian politician, lawyer, and activist during the pre-independence era, particularly known for his role in the Indian National Movement. However, he passed away in 1925, long before the formation of the interim government in 1946.

Option b is incorrect: Dr. Rajendra Prasad was in charge of Food and Agriculture and was not Vice-President of the Executive Council.

Option c is incorrect: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel held the portfolio of Home, Information and Broadcasting and was not Vice-President of the Executive Council

Option d is correct: Jawaharlal Nehru was the **Vice-President of the Executive Council** of the Interim Government that was formed in 1946. He also had the portfolios of External Affairs and Commonwealth Relations.

28. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Post post-independence period of Indian history, especially before the LPG reforms saw multiple significant events which shaped the trajectory of the nation's growth as well as established some concrete constitutional foundations.

Event 2: Sikkim became the **22nd state of India** on May 16, **1975**. The Indian Parliament **approved** the **constitutional amendment on April 26, 1975**, and the President ratified it on May 15. The amendment included a **special provision for Sikkim under article 371(F)** of the Constitution of India.

Event 4: In **1978**, India's government changed property rights from a **fundamental right to a legal right (Article 300A)**. This allowed for **easier land acquisition for public good** but **citizens can still own property**. The change aimed to achieve **fairer wealth distribution**.

Event 3: The judgment in the case of **'Minerva Mills Ltd. & Ors. v. UOI' was delivered on July 31, 1980**. The court ruled that the **power of the parliament to amend the constitution is limited** by the constitution. Hence the **parliament cannot exercise this limited power to grant itself an unlimited power**. In addition, a majority of the court also held that the parliament's power to amend is not a power to destroy.

Event 1: The **voting age** in India was **lowered from 21 to 18 years** in **1988**. This change was made by the **Sixty-first Amendment of the Constitution of India**, which was passed by the Rajya Sabha on December 20, 1988. The **bill** was then **ratified** by the states and received the **assent** of **President** Ramaswamy Venkataraman on March 28, **1989.**

29. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

While women made up a **small percentage of the Constituent Assembly** that drafted India's constitution, their **contributions** were **significant. Out of 389 members, only 15** were **women**. These women **hailed from diverse backgrounds** and **represented various social** and **political groups**.

Option 1 is correct: Hansa Jivraj Mehta was a member of the Constituent Assembly of India from 1946 to 1949. Mehta was a **member of the Advisory Committee and Sub Committee on Fundamental Rights**. She **advocated for women's equality and justice**, and **argued against reservations for women**.

Option 2 is correct: Durgabai Deshmukh (1909 - 1981) was a **member** of the **Constituent Assembly** of India and the **Planning Commission** of India. She was the **only woman in the panel of chairmen in the Constituent Assembly**. She was a lawyer, social worker, and politician, and was involved in Indian politics from a young age.

Option 3 is correct: Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit was a member of the Constituent Assembly that drafted the Indian constitution. In 1946, she was **elected to the Constituent Assembly** from the **United Provinces as** a **Congress party candidate**. She was **one of 15 women members** of the Constituent Assembly, which also included **Sarojini Naidu, Durgabai Deshmukh**, and **Rajkumari Amrit Kaur**.

Option 4 is incorrect: Bhikaji Cama (1861-1936) stands tall as a **key figure in India's fight** for **freedom**. Nicknamed the **"Mother of Indian Revolution,"** she's famous for **unfurling the first version** of the **Indian flag outside the country**. She was not alive during the formation of constituent assembly of India.

Option 5 is incorrect: Matangini Hazra (1870 - 1942) was an **Indian revolutionary** and leader in the **Indian independence movement**. She was a **Gandhian** who participated in various movements to gain complete freedom for India. She was **shot during the Quit India movement** and her death made her one of the **earliest casualties of the Quit India movement**. Her unwavering determination, resilience, and commitment to the cause of freedom have left an **indelible mark on the history of India's struggle for independence**.

Important Tips

The Constituent Assembly of India was elected to frame the Constitution of India. It was elected by the 'Provincial Assembly'. Following India's independence from the British Government in 1947, its members served as the nation's first Parliament. Of the 389 members of the Indian Constituent Assembly, 15 were women. Those were:

1. Ammu Swaminathan
2. Annie Mascarene
3. Dakshayani Velayudhan
4. Begum Aizaz Rasul
5. Durgabai Deshmukh
6. Hansa Jivraj Mehta
7. Kamla Chaudhary
8. Leela Roy
9. Malati Choudhury
10. Purnima Banerjee
11. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur
12. Renuka Ray
13. Sarojini Naidu
14. Sucheta Kriplani
15. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit

30. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

A state, in political science, is a sovereign entity characterized by four essential elements: a defined territory, the population, a government, and the capacity to enter relations with other states meaning it possesses sovereignty over its territory and exercises authority through its institutions, ensuring law, order, and the welfare of its populace. States play a key role in the international system, holding rights and obligations under international law.

The presence of four essential elements traditionally defines a state within the context of international law and political science:

Population: A state must have people, a community of individuals who reside within its borders. The population embodies the human component of a state, contributing to its identity, culture, and social structure. Without people, there can be no state.

Territory: A clearly defined geographical area with

recognized boundaries is essential for a state's existence. Territory provides the physical space within which the state exercises its authority and within which its population resides. It includes land, air space, and territorial waters.

Government: A state requires a government to administer its laws, policies, and day-to-day affairs. The government acts as the executive mechanism of the state, responsible for internal administration, foreign diplomacy, defense, and ensuring law and order. It is the organizational structure through which the state exercises its sovereign authority.

Sovereignty: Sovereignty is the supreme authority within a territory, denoting the state's ability to govern itself without any external interference. It embodies the state's independence in both internal affairs and external relations. Sovereignty is what distinguishes a state from non-sovereign entities.

31. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is incorrect: The **States Committee** was formed under the Chairmanship of **Jawaharlal Nehru** to negotiate the integration of princely states into the Union of India.

Pair 2 is correct: The **House Committee** was established for day-to-day administration of the

Constituent Assembly. **B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya** was the Chairman of the Committee.

Pair 3 is incorrect: The **Provincial Constitution Committee** was formed under the Chairmanship of **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel** to draft provisions related to the state governments.

32. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

In his speech to the Constituent Assembly, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar emphasized the importance of liberty, equality, and fraternity as fundamental to the philosophy of the Indian Constitution. **The principles of liberty, equality and fraternity are not to be treated as separate items in a trinity rather they are "Union of trinity". Within a democratic framework, liberty, equality, and fraternity function as an inseparable trinity.** To isolate one element from the others is to fundamentally undermine the very purpose of democracy. Without equality, liberty devolves into the dominance of the few over the many. Conversely, equality without liberty stifles individual initiative and innovation. Finally, without the unifying spirit of fraternity, both liberty and equality lose their potency.

33. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement-I is correct: The diverse composition of the Indian Constituent Assembly resulted from its indirect election process. In addition, the Assembly also included nominated members from various minority groups.

The Constituent Assembly of India was a diverse body of representatives from different religious, linguistic, and social groups. It includes people from different sections like B.R. Ambedkar (Scheduled Caste), Rajkumari Amrit Kaur (Sikh), Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (Muslim), Sarojini Naidu (Hindu), and T.T. Krishnamachari (Tamil speaker). This diversity was essential to the Assembly's ability to draft a constitution that protects the rights of all Indians.

Statement-II is incorrect: The Constituent Assembly of India was not directly elected through universal adult suffrage. Instead, members were chosen by Provincial Legislatures. The Assembly was elected by the members of the existing Provincial Legislatures, which were themselves elected on the basis of communal and minority representation given under the Government of India Act of 1919.

34. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Event 1: Adoption of the National Flag - July 22, 1947 - The Constituent Assembly of India adopted the design of the national flag on July 22, 1947.

Event 4: Ratification of India's membership of the commonwealth- May 1949

Event 2: Adoption of the Constitution - November 26, 1949 - India, also known as Bharat, is a Union of States. It is a Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic with a parliamentary system of government. The Republic is governed in terms of the Constitution of India which was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26th November 1949 and came into force on 26th January 1950.

Event 3: Adoption of the National Anthem - January 24, 1950 – The National anthem, composed originally in Bangla by Rabindranath Tagore, was adopted in its Hindi version by the Constituent Assembly as the National Anthem of India on January 24, 1950.

35. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Constituent Assembly established a number of committees to handle various aspects of constitution-making. There were eight major committees, and the rest were minor committees.

Pair 1 is incorrect. The Drafting Committee was perhaps the most significant committee, it was responsible for preparing the initial draft of the Constitution. **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar chaired this committee.**

Pair 2 is incorrect. The **States Committee was headed by Jawaharlal Nehru**, this committee dealt with issues related to the structure and functioning of the state governments.

Pair 3 is correct. The **Credentials Committee of the Constituent Assembly was headed by Alladi Krishnaswamy Ayyar** and included members such as N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, Rajendra Prasad, and B. R. Rajam, among others.

The committee verified the election certificates and credentials of each member to confirm their eligibility to be part of the Constituent Assembly.

Pair 4 is incorrect. The Ad-hoc **Committee on the National Flag** was responsible for deciding the design of the national

flag of India.

36. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Constituent Assembly of India** was formed in **1946** to draft and adopt the **Indian Constitution**. The Assembly played a crucial role in shaping independent India's foundational policies before transitioning into the **Provisional Parliament** in **1950**. The functions performed by Constituent Assembly of India were-

Option 1 is correct: The Constituent Assembly adopted the National Flag of India on July 22, 1947.

Option 2 is incorrect: India was a founding member of the United Nations and signed the UN Charter on October 26, 1945, before the Constituent Assembly came into existence. The **Constituent Assembly ratified India's membership in the Commonwealth**, not the **United Nations (UN)**.

India was a founding member of the United Nations, joined in October, 1945, after ratifying the UN Charter.

Option 3 is correct: The Constituent Assembly adopted "Vande Mataram" as the National Song of India on January 24, 1950.

Option 4 is incorrect: C. Rajagopalachari was appointed as Governor-General of India, but he was not elected by the Constituent Assembly. The Constituent Assembly elected Dr. Rajendra Prasad as the first President of India on January 24, 1950.

37. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **Interim Government of 1946** was formed under the provisions of the **Cabinet Mission Plan** to facilitate the transfer of power from British rule to Indian leadership. It functioned between **2 September 1946** and **15 August 1947**, leading up to the independence and partition of India. This government included representatives from the **Indian National Congress**, the **Muslim League**, and other communities.

Pair 1 is correct. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was indeed the head of the **Food and Agriculture portfolio** in the Interim Government of 1946.

Pair 2 is correct. Jagjivan Ram held the **Labour portfolio** in the Interim Government. He worked extensively on labor welfare and industrial relations.

Pair 3 is correct. C. Rajagopalachari was a member of the Interim Government of 1946. He held the portfolio of **Education and Arts** in the Interim Government.

Pair 4 is incorrect. Joginder Nath Mandal was part of the Interim Government, but he held the **Law portfolio, not Defence.** The Defence portfolio was managed by Baldev Singh in the Interim Government.

38. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement I is correct and Statement II correctly explains statement I: The United Province (now Uttar Pradesh) had the highest number of representatives in the Constituent Assembly as on 31st December, 1947. It had **55 seats**, the largest among the British Indian provinces. This was because it was one of the most populous provinces at the time. The seats in the Constituent Assembly were allocated in proportion to the population of each province, with **one seat for every one million people**. This method was used to ensure fair representation of all regions based on their demographic strength.

39. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement I is correct: Samvidhan Diwas (Constitution Day) is celebrated on **November 26th in India to commemorate the adoption of the Indian Constitution** by the Constituent Assembly on that day in 1949, though it came into effect on January 26, 1950.

Statement II is incorrect: On 27 October 1947, the Drafting Committee began scrutinizing the Draft Constitution prepared by the Constitutional Advisor, along with other notes, reports, and memoranda. After making changes, the committee submitted its final Draft Constitution to the President of the Constituent Assembly on 21 February 1948. On **26th November 1949**, Dr. Ambedkar moved the motion "that the Constitution as settled by the Assembly be passed." The motion was thus adopted on 26 November 1949 and the **Constituent Assembly adopted** the final draft of the Constitution.

The final version of the Constitution was signed by members of the Assembly on 24 January 1950, and it came into effect on 26 January 1950.

40. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

The wheel at the center of our National Flag is known as Ashoka Chakra. Our National Flag was composed by Pingali Venkayya. The blue colour denotes the colour of the sky and ocean. The wheel in the national flag represents Motion.

This wheel is also known as wheel of the law of dharma/ Justice. Truth or Satya, dharma or virtue ought to be the controlling principle of those who work under this flag.

41. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Preamble of the Constitution of India is largely **inspired by the Objectives Resolution** introduced by Jawaharlal Nehru on 13th December 1946 and adopted by the Constituent Assembly on January 22, 1947.

Statement a is correct. The Objectives Resolution declares India to be an **independent, sovereign republic,** and the Preamble of Constitution of India also declares India as a **sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic.** The idea of sovereignty and republicanism is common in both texts.

Statement b is correct. The Objectives Resolution emphasizes **justice** by stating that the Constitution will guarantee **social, economic, and political justice.** The

Preamble explicitly enshrines the **same principle,** making justice (social, economic, and political) one of its key goals.

Statement c is correct. The Objectives Resolution aims to guarantee **equality of status and opportunities to** all the citizens of India. The Preamble echoes the same sentiment by stating that the Constitution assures equality of status and opportunity to promote an egalitarian society.

Statement d is incorrect. While both the Objectives Resolution and the Preamble share many similarities, the concept of **"dignity of the individual" and the "Unity and Integrity of the Nation" are not explicitly** mentioned in the **Objectives Resolution.** However, the Preamble explicitly mentions the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the Nation. This concept is central to the Indian Constitution and reflects the commitment to individual rights and freedoms.

42. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Constituent Assembly was a body that was both elected and nominated to draft the Constitution of India. It convened for the first time in New Delhi on December 9, 1946. The Assembly worked diligently for nearly three years to complete the monumental task of creating a constitution for an independent India.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constituent Assembly was formed under the Cabinet Mission Plan of 1946, not the Mountbatten Plan. The Cabinet Mission, initiated by British Prime Minister Clement Attlee, aimed to facilitate the transfer of power to Indian leadership while maintaining India's unity and securing its independence. The mission consisted of Lord Pethick-Lawrence (Secretary of State for India), Sir Stafford Cripps (President of the Board of Trade), and A.V. Alexander (First Lord of the Admiralty).

Statement 2 is correct: The seats allocated to each British province were to be divided among the three principal communities—**Muslims**, **Sikhs**, and **General** (those not belonging to the Muslim or Sikh communities)—in proportion to their respective populations. Representatives for each community were to be elected by the members of that community within the provincial legislative assemblies through indirect method, using the **proportional representation** system through the **single transferable vote** method.

Statement 3 is correct: According to the Cabinet Mission Plan, **each Province and Princely State (or group of States) was allotted seats in the Constituent Assembly roughly proportional to their population**, at a ratio of 1 seat per 1,000,000 people. As a result, the provinces under direct British rule were to elect 292 members, while the Princely States were allocated a minimum of 93 seats.

Statement 4 is correct: The selection of representatives from the Princely States was to be determined through consultation, with the heads of the princely states nominating the representatives to the Constituent Assembly.

43. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is correct: K.M. Munshi was a lawyer from Gujarat who **served as a member of the Drafting Committee** of the Constitution of India. He was also chairman of a minor committee called 'Order of Business Committee'.

- The Drafting Committee was formed on August 29, 1947 and was chaired by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.
- The other members of the committee included Gopalaswami Ayyangar, Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, Syed Mohammed Sadullah, N. Madhava Rau (in place of B.L. Mittar) and T.T. Ramakrishna Chari (in place of D.P. Khaitan).

Pair 2 is correct: Sir **B. N. Rau was the Constitutional (Legal) Advisor** to the Constituent Assembly. He prepared a series of background papers based on a close study of the political systems prevailing in other countries.

Pair 3 is incorrect: Alladi Krishnaswamy Ayyar was **one of the members of the Drafting Committee** of the Constitution. He was also the chairman of two minor committees – the Credentials Committee and the Hindi Translation Committee.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the chairman of the **Steering Committee.** He was also the Chairman of the Rules of Procedure Committee formed for drafting rules of procedure for the Constituent Assembly.

44. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The most crucial committee within the Constituent Assembly was the Drafting Committee, **established on August 29, 1947**. Its primary responsibility was to draft the new Constitution. **It consisted of seven members**. They were:

1. **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar (Chairman)**
2. N. Gopalaswamy Ayyangar
3. Alladi Krishnaswamy Ayyar
4. Dr. K.M. Munshi
5. Syed Mohammad Saadullah
6. N. Madhava Rau (He replaced B.L. Mitter who resigned due to ill-health)
7. T.T. Krishnamachari (He replaced D.P. Khaitan who died in 1948)

45. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option a is correct: The representatives of the princely states in the Constituent Assembly were **nominated by the rulers of the princely states.** It is because the princely states were not democracies at the time. **The rulers of the princely states had absolute power, and they were not accountable to their people**.

Option b is incorrect: According to the Cabinet Mission Plan, seats in the Constituent Assembly were allocated based on population, approximately in a 1:10,00,000 ratio.

The provinces under direct British rule were to elect 292 members, and a minimum of 93 seats were allocated to the Princely States.

Option c is correct: The representatives of the princely states **did not attend the first meeting** of the Constituent Assembly on December 9, 1946, as **they were uncertain about their future relationship with the Indian Union.** However, after the acceptance of the Mountbatten Plan on June 3, 1947, for the country's partition, most representatives from princely states gradually joined the Assembly.

Option d is correct: Mysore held the largest number of representatives in the Constituent Assembly among the princely states, **with a total of seven members.**

1.3. Salient Features/ Schedules/Parts of the Constitution

46. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

The Preamble to the Indian Constitution of India is a brief introductory statement that reflects the hopes and aspirations of the people. The preamble can be referred to as the preface which highlights the entire Constitution. It embodies the basic philosophy and the fundamental values on which our constitution is based.

Statement 1 is correct: Preamble states that India is a Sovereign country. This means India can acquire foreign territory and if necessary, can cede its territory in favour of foreign state. It is done through constitutional amendment under article 368.

Statement 2 is correct: Rights are not a gift to citizens given by the state. They are intrinsic in nature as any individual would possess basic human rights independently of any Constitution. Constitution only confirms the existence of these rights (Part III of the Indian Constitution) and gives them protection. This has also been held in the M Nagaraj Case.

The Indian Constitution was framed to ensure that individual rights which are intrinsic in nature are protected. The Constitution which lays down the basic structure of a nation's polity is built on the foundations of certain fundamental values. Thus, Rights are not the result of Constitution but the Constitution is the result of rights of individuals.

Statement 3 is correct: The 42nd Amendment 1976 changed the description of India from a "sovereign democratic republic" to a "sovereign, socialist secular democratic republic". However, before the amendment constitution already had socialist content in form of Directive Principle of State Policy (DPSP). Hence what was implied, made explicit after the amendment. The words "unity of the nation" changed to "unity and integrity of the nation" after the amendment

47. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: While the Indian Constitution can be amended, it is not a defining characteristic that makes it a "living document." Many constitutions can be amended, but the term "living document" refers to something beyond mere changeability. The term "living document" implies that it can grow and change with society.

Option b is correct: The Indian Constitution is often called a "living document" because it has the **ability to adapt and respond to changing societal norms, values, and circumstances over time**, thanks in part to its flexible provisions and judicial interpretations.

Option c is incorrect: The presence of a historical account is not what makes a constitution a "living document." The focus is on how the constitution adapts to the present and future, not on historical accounts.

Option d is incorrect: While the Constitution does indeed encompass fundamental values and principles, its status as a living document primarily relates to its ability to adapt to evolving societal needs and values.

48. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The term asymmetrical federalism refers to a flexible type of union of states which **allows the government to cut different deals with different states in special matters pertaining to them.** This method allows the government to grant special status to some units providing them with special powers not enjoyed by other states. It permits particular states to have **greater executive, legislative, and at times, judicial powers than other states.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Asymmetric federalism recognizes (not overlook) the diverse cultural, linguistic, and historical differences among constituent units. An asymmetrical setup can be effective when the needs of state are diverse religiously, culturally and/or ethnically. In such a case, asymmetrical federalism caters to the needs of particular communities by giving them special status.

Statement 3 is correct: Asymmetry is established through legal institutional arrangements. For instance, in India these arrangements have a constitutional basis whereas in countries like Indonesia, China, etc. it is based on legislative arrangements. **Indian constitution allows some border states in the North-West and North-East region (i.e., Jammu and Kashmir, Nagaland and Mizoram) to exercise constitutional asymmetries under article 371.** There are asymmetries present in the Indian constitution at the sub state level in the form of **Union Territories**.

49. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Indian Constitution came into **existence on 26th November 1949**. The Constituent Assembly of India drafted the constitution **considering features of constitutions of the other countries as well as from the Government of India Act 1935**. There are various sources of Indian constitution for some features of it are borrowed. There was no hesitation to learn from the experiences of other nations, hence, the Indian Constitution has various features that are borrowed

from other nations.

Pair 1 is incorrectly matched: The features borrowed from Irish Constitution were Directive Principles of State Policy, nomination of members to Rajya Sabha and method of election of president.

The provisions of Fundamental duties and the ideal of justice were borrowed from Soviet Constitution.

Pair 2 is incorrectly matched: The **features borrowed from Canadian Constitution** were Federation with a strong Centre, vesting of residuary powers in the Centre, appointment of state governors by the Centre, and advisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

The provisions of Suspension of Fundamental Rights during Emergency were borrowed from Weimar

Constitution of Germany

Pair 3 is correctly matched: The features borrowed from Australian Constitution were Concurrent List, freedom of trade, commerce and inter-course, and **joint sitting of the two Houses of Parliament.**

Pair 4 is incorrectly matched: The features borrowed from Soviet Constitution were Fundamental duties and the ideal of justice (social, economic and political).

The provisions of Directive Principles of State Policy **were borrowed from Irish Constitution.**

50. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

Statement 1 is incorrect: The original jurisdiction of the Indian Supreme court covers only federal cases but the original jurisdiction of the American Supreme court covers not only federal cases but also cases related to the naval forces, maritime activities, ambassadors, etc.

Statement 2 is correct: Indian Judicial System has a provision for Advisory Jurisdiction. Whereas, no such provision is provided in the American Judicial System.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Appellate jurisdiction of the Indian supreme court covers not just constitutional but also criminal and civil cases. Whereas appellate jurisdiction of the American Supreme court covers only constitutional cases.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Indian Judicial System has a wide discretion to grant Special Leave to Appeal. However, American Judicial System has no plenary powers to grant such an appeal.

51. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

India is regarded as a semi-federal state or a **quasi-federal state as described by Prof. K.C. Wheare.** The Supreme Court of India also describes it as a federal structure with a strong bias towards the Centre.

Statement a is incorrect: The main principle on which the parliamentary system operates is responsibility of executive to the legislature.

Statement b is incorrect: Bicameralism is a federal feature of Indian constitution. Bicameralism means there are two houses of Parliament lower house or Lok Sabha having representatives elected directly by the people and the upper house namely the council of states or Rajya Sabha which represents the federating units.

Statement c is correct: Quasi federal refers to a system of government where the distribution of powers between the Center and the state are not equal. India is a federation with a unitary bias and is referred as a quasi-federal state because of strong central machinery. According to K Santhanam, factor like dominance of the centre in the financial sphere and the dependence of states upon the central grants responsible for unitary bias.

Statement d is incorrect: India follows dual polity at the centre and state level constitutes as a federal feature of Indian state. Dual polity means centre and state are endowed with sovereign powers to be exercised in the field assigned to them respectively by the constitution.

Important Tips

Federal features of Indian Constitution	Unitary features of Indian Constitution
1. Supremacy of the Constitution	1. Single Constitution
2. Bicameral Legislature	2. Rajya Sabha does not represent the States equally
3. Dual Government	3. Division of power is not equal i.e., strong centre.
4. Rigid Constitution	4. Constitution is not strictly rigid ex. Amendment through Simple majority
5. Independent Judiciary	5. Integrated Judiciary
6. In the case of a federal country there is a system of revenue sharing between the Center and the State.	6. The Constitution of India has given emergency powers to the President

52. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

When the Indian Constitution was adopted in 1949, it consisted of 8 Schedules. Now, the Indian Constitution is divided into 12 schedules.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Vice President is not included in third schedule. The **Third Schedule** contains the forms of oath and affirmation to be taken by various persons.

The Chairman (Vice President) and the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha are mentioned in schedule 2. The **Second Schedule** deals with the provisions relating to the emoluments, allowances, privileges, etc.

Statement 2 is correct: The President and the Governor of states are **included only in second Schedule** and not in third schedule. Article 60 and Article 159 of the Indian

Constitution provides for the provision of oath or affirmation by the President and Governor respectively.

Statement 3 is correct: The **Comptroller and Auditor General of India** is the head of the Indian audit & account department. He is also the chief Guardian of public purse. **The CAG is included in both the 2nd and 3rd schedule of the Indian Constitution.**

Statement 4 is correct: The amendment to the second and third schedule is done by Simple Majority of the two houses of Parliament outside the scope of Article 368.

Important Tips

1. The **Second Schedule** deals with the provisions relating to the emoluments, allowances, privileges and so on of the President of India, Governors of Indian States, Speaker of Lok Sabha & Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Chairman of Rajya Sabha & Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Legislative Assemblies of Indian States, Chairman and Deputy Chairman of Legislative Councils of the Indian States, Supreme Court and High Court Judges and Comptroller & Auditor General of India (CAG)
2. The **Third Schedule** contains the forms of oath and affirmation for Union Ministers of India, Parliament Election Candidates, Members of Parliament (MPs), Supreme Court Judges, Comptroller and Auditor General, State Ministers, State Legislature Elections Candidates, State Legislature Members and High Court Judges.

53. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Constitution of India draws its sources from various historical and contemporary documents, philosophies, and political systems. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the chairman of the Drafting Committee, and other members of the Constituent Assembly extensively studied and analyzed constitutions of about 60 countries.

Pair 1 is correctly matched: Joint sitting of the Parliament was adopted from the **Australian Constitution.** A joint sitting of both the Houses of Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) is called by the President to resolve a deadlock between the two Houses on a bill.

Pair 2 is incorrectly matched: Procedure established by the law was adopted from the **Japanese Constitution** and not British Constitution. Article 21 of the Indian Constitution uses the phrase "procedure established by law". It signifies that if a law has been passed by the Parliament by following the proper procedure, then it will be a valid law.

Pair 3 is incorrectly matched: Amendment procedure of the Constitution was adopted from the **South African Constitution** and not the Irish Constitution.

Pair 4 is incorrectly matched: Method of election of President of India was taken from the **Irish Constitution** and not from the South African Constitution.

54. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Row 1 is correct: The feature of a **Parliamentary form of government** or the cabinet form of government has been **adopted from the British Constitution.** It is a system wherein the council of ministers, of which the cabinet is a part, is the nucleus of power in a parliamentary system. The parliamentary government is also known as 'responsible government' as the **council of ministers (the real executive) is accountable to the Lok Sabha and stays in office so long as it enjoys the latter's confidence.**

Row 2 is incorrect: 'Prerogative Writs' were borrowed from the British Constitution. They are so called in England as they were issued in the exercise of the prerogative of the King. A writ can be defined as **a written order issued by a court of higher authority** to a lower-level court or an individual **in the event of a breach of a citizen's basic rights.** There are five types of writ petitions - habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, certiorari and quo warranto.

Row 3 is incorrect: Bicameralism is the practice of having two Houses of Parliament. The Constitution of India provides for a bicameral legislature consisting of an **Upper House (Rajya Sabha) and a Lower House (Lok Sabha).** The feature of **bicameralism** has been **adopted from the British Constitution.**

- The Rajya Sabha represents the states of Indian Federation, while the Lok Sabha represents the people of India as a whole. The Rajya Sabha is required to maintain the federal equilibrium by protecting the interests of the states against the undue interference of the Centre.

55. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

Indian courts constitute a hierarchical judiciary system governed by the Constitution of India. This integrated system, headed by the Supreme Court, includes High Courts at the state level and various subordinate courts. Indian courts adjudicate civil, criminal, and constitutional matters, upholding the rule of law, justice, and equality. The judiciary plays a crucial role in interpreting laws, protecting rights, and resolving disputes, embodying judicial independence and impartiality.

Statement I is correct: India has a single and integrated judicial system that does not distinguish between federal (central) and state cases. This system ensures a consistent legal framework across the country, under which both central and state laws are adjudicated within a single hierarchical judicial system.

Statement II is correct: The Constitution of India provides for a single integrated judicial system. This means that unlike some other federal countries of the world, India does not have separate State courts. The structure of the judiciary in India is pyramidal (hierarchical) with the Supreme Court at the top, High Courts below them and district and subordinate courts at the lowest level. The lower courts function under the direct superintendence of the higher courts. It means that

in India's judicial system, the decisions made by the higher courts are binding on the lower courts. Another way to understand this integration is through the appellate system that exists in India. This means that a person can appeal to a higher court if they believe that the judgment passed by the lower court is not just.

Hence Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I.

56. Solution: (a)

Exp) option a is the correct answer.

The Third Schedule of the Constitution of India lays down the forms of oaths or affirmations for various constitutional authorities and others.

The third Schedule contains the Forms of Oaths or Affirmations of the following:

1. Union Ministers of India
2. Members of Parliament (MPs)
3. State Legislature Members
4. Supreme Court Judges
5. High Court Judges
6. **Comptroller and Auditor General**
7. Parliament Election Candidates
8. State Legislature Elections' Candidates
9. State Ministers

Option 1 is incorrect. The oath for the President is explicitly mentioned under **Article 60** of the Constitution and is not part of the Third Schedule.

Option 2 is incorrect. The Vice-President's oath is governed by **Article 69**, which is outside the Third Schedule.

Option 3 is correct. The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India takes an oath of office and secrecy as mentioned in the Third Schedule.

Option 4 is incorrect. The oath for the Governor is covered under **Article 159**, not under the Third Schedule.

57. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The framers of the Indian Constitution have preferred a proper synthesis between the British principle of parliamentary sovereignty and the American principle of judicial supremacy.

Parliamentary sovereignty is the Parliament's right to **make or unmake any law** while no person or body has the authority to override or set it aside. **Judicial Supremacy,** on the other hand, reaffirms the idea that the **Judiciary** remains the **final and authoritative interpreter of the Constitution.** To find a delicate equilibrium between these two principles, the framers of the Indian Constitution adopted the principle of **Constitutional Supremacy**. The Indian Constitution strikes a balance between **Parliamentary sovereignty** (a hallmark of the British system) and **judicial supremacy** (as seen in the U.S. system).

Statement 1 is correct. The power of judicial review of the Indian Supreme Court (SC) is narrower than SC of the USA. **This is because the American Constitution provides for 'due process of law' against that of 'procedure established by law' contained in the Indian Constitution (Article 21). Procedure Established by Law** means that a law is valid if it has been passed by the correct legal process. It **focuses on the legality of the law-making process.** On the other hand, **Due Process of Law** is a broader concept that ensures not only that the law is passed correctly but also that it is **fair and just.**

Statement 2 is correct. The British Parliament is **completely sovereign,** meaning it can amend or repeal any law, including constitutional provisions, with a simple majority. In contrast, the Indian Parliament's power to amend the Constitution is **limited by the judiciary.** The **Supreme Court's doctrine of basic structure** ensures that certain fundamental features of the Constitution cannot be amended, even by Parliament.

58. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

A written constitution is a formal and organised document that serves as the **fundamental law of a nation.** It outlines the framework of the government, defines the distribution of powers, and establishes the rights and responsibilities of citizens.

Statement-I is incorrect: The Presence of a written Constitution is not a fundamental requirement of democracy e.g., a democratic nation such as the **United Kingdom** does not have a written constitution. Similarly, all nations that have written constitution cannot be qualified to become a democratic nation. A nation that has written constitution but absence of free and fair election, Universal Adult Suffrage etc. cannot be considered democracy.

Statement-II is correct: It is true that a **Written constitution provides a set of rules and principles** that guide the functioning of a democratic system, **the rights of citizens, and the limits of government power.** By safeguarding the rights and freedoms of individuals, a written constitution fosters an **enlightened citizenry** capable of actively participating in a thriving democracy.

59. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Constitution of India was **adopted on 26th November 1949** and **came into effect on 26th January 1950.** It serves as the framework for the government and the fundamental law that governs the country.

Option 1 is correct: One of the primary purposes of the Indian Constitution is to prescribe the ideals for society i.e., it lays down what a citizen of India should aspire to. For instance, the Preamble outlines the **ideals and objectives that the nation seeks to achieve, including justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity.**

Option 2 is correct: The Constitution of India provides for a **Parliamentary form of government** which is **federal in structure with certain unitary features.** Although, the word

federal is not mentioned anywhere in the Constitution, it provides for **three tier governments** at the Central, State, and local level. Hence it is true that the **Constitution outlines the fundamental structure of the government system.**

Option 3 is correct: Preventing the tyranny of the majority against linguistic and religious minorities is an important function of a constitution. For example, Cultural and Educational Rights **(Article 29&30)** enshrined in part III of the Constitution **safeguards the cultural rights of both religious and linguistic minorities.**

Option 4 is correct: What distinguishes the Indian constitution from others is its **provision of a framework for economic policies.** For instance, Part IV (Directive Principles of State Policy or **DPSP**) offers **guidelines to government authorities on shaping their economic policies.**

60. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

A significant aspect of the global battle for democracy has been the adoption of the principle of Universal Adult Franchise as the foundation for ascertaining the will of the people. Until the 20th century, numerous nations that claimed to be democratic, limited voting rights to men only based on property ownership, education, and other qualifications.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The right of the people to vote and elect their representatives is called franchise. Universal Adult Franchise means only the right of the people (aged 18 years and above in India) to choose their representatives. Hence, UAF simply means that the **right to vote should be given to all adult citizens** without any discrimination based on caste, class, colour, religion or sex. Therefore, **UAF does not include the right to contest in elections.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Gandhiji was one of the vocal supporters of Universal Adult Franchise, He argued for voting rights to all, irrespective of their literacy status, economic and social status etc. Gandhiji in his journal **'Young India'** in 1931 expressed that "I cannot possibly bear the idea that a man who has got wealth should get the vote but a man who has got character, but no wealth or literacy, should have no vote.

Statement 3 is correct: The Motilal Nehru Report, also known as the "Nehru Report," was a significant document in the context of Indian constitutional reforms. It was published in **1928** and one of the key recommendations of the report was the **advocacy for Universal Adult Franchise (UAF).**

Statement 4 is incorrect: While **India** implemented the principle of UAF on **January 26,1950,** the **United Kingdom implemented UAF in 1928 itself.** In 1918, the voting rights were extended to all men aged 21 and women aged 30. Then, in **1928,** women aged 21 and older were also granted the right to vote, ultimately leading to universal suffrage in the United Kingdom.

61. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

While the State encompasses various sovereignty, territory, population and the legal framework (constitution), the Government primarily deals with the day-to-day administration, governance, and policymaking of the country.

Statement 1 is correct: The State is a broader and more permanent concept that represents the entire political organisation of a territory. The **State** is a political institution that **represents a sovereign people** who occupy a definite territory.

On the other hand, the **Government refers to the individuals or institutions responsible for making and implementing decisions** within that State. The Government is a part of State and can change as elected officials come and go, for example Congress Government, BJP government etc.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Both the Government and the State derive their authority primarily from the Constitution. The Constitution is the foundational legal document that establishes the framework for governance within the State. State is a comprehensive concept that represents the entire political organisation of a country including the Government.

The Constitution defines the **principles of sovereignty, rights of the people** which in turn are very much linked to the concept of State.

62. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

A State is a legal-political entity characterized by certain essential elements.

Option 1 is correct. Constituting a state requires the presence of a **defined territory.** Such territory should be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the State.

Option 2 is correct. The presence of an organized Government is necessary to constitute a State. Government must be effective i.e., it must be capable of maintaining order and ensuring compliance.

Option 3 is correct. Sovereignty is necessary to constitute a state. It refers to the ultimate power or authority over which there is no appeal.

Option 4 is incorrect. While **regular elections** are a common feature of many modern states, particularly democracies, they **are not universally considered an essential element for a State's existence.** Many states throughout history, and some present-day states, have existed without regular elections.

Option 5 is incorrect. Independent judiciary is also a common feature of many modern states, but is not considered as an essential element of State

Important Tips

A Nation refers to a large group of people having a strong sense of unity and common consciousness bonded by a 'collective identity.' This national identity is typically based on shared culture, religion, history, language, or ethnicity. Thus, it is an emotional concept.

63. Solution: (b)

Exp) option b is the correct answer.

The Indian Constitution is organized into **25 Parts (22 Original parts, 4 Additions and 1 deletion by various Amendments)**, each dealing with specific aspects of governance, rights, and structure.

Pair 1 is correct. Part X – Scheduled and Tribal Areas of the Constitution of India contains **Articles 244 and 244A**. It deals with the administration of Scheduled Areas and Tribal Areas, focusing on safeguarding the rights of tribal communities through distinct governance mechanisms.

Pair 2 is correct. Part XV – includes **Articles 324 to 329**. Part XV of the Constitution lays out certain **provisions related to the conduct of elections,** including the appointment of an independent Election Commission.

Pair 3 is incorrect. Part XVII of the Constitution contains provisions for an **official language** for the Union, the states, the judiciary and to be used in inter-governmental communication.

Part XVIII of the Constitution contains provisions for **emergency situations,** including national, localised and financial emergencies.

Pair 4 is incorrect. Part XX – contains solely Article **368**, which lays down the procedure for **amending the Constitution**. It classifies amendments into three categories i.e. by a simple majority, special majority, and by special majority with ratification by half of the states.

Part VIII of the Constitution contains provisions for the **administration of the Union Territories,** including the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

64. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statements I and III are correct: The Constitution of India is considered to be a living document as it accepts the necessity of modifications according to varying needs of the society. And it can be amended from time to time to accommodate necessary changes in society. The Constitution of India embodies a unique synthesis of flexibility and rigidity.

The Constitution allows the Parliament to amend the constitution to accommodate the situation in the country. This feature of accommodation of the changes in the society makes the Indian Constitution a living document.

Statement II is incorrect: There is no such status of a living person given to the Constitution of India by the Supreme Court of India.

65. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. Constitutionalism refers to an idea or a principle that the authority of the government is derived from the body of fundamental law and is also limited by it. It seeks to establish that the State is set up for the fulfilment of the aspirations of the people and noble objectives of the society, and the extent of the power of the State is as per those aspirations and objectives.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Constitutionalism is a spirit that does not necessarily require a written constitution. Also, it can be absent despite the existence of a written constitution.

Statement 3 is correct. Article 13 implicitly provides for judicial review. Any act of Parliament or executive action that violates the Constitution can be struck down by the Supreme Court, thus submitting the legislature and the executive to the superiority of the Constitution. **Article 32 provides the right to approach the Supreme Court** for the enforcement of fundamental rights, which acts as a safeguard against any arbitrary exercise of power by the government, reinforcing the concept of constitutionalism.

66. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Constitution of India has borrowed several of its provisions from other Constitutions of the world.

Pair 1 is correct. The Emergency Provisions have been borrowed from the Government of India Act, 1935. The idea of suspending fundamental rights during an emergency was inspired by the Weimar Constitution of Germany.

Pair 2 is correct. The method of election of the President has been borrowed from the Constitution of Ireland. Directive Principle of State Policy and methods of nomination of members to the Rajya Sabha has also been borrowed from it.

Pair 3 is incorrect. The provision for joint sitting of the two houses of Parliament has been borrowed from the Constitution of Australia. Concurrent list and freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse have also been borrowed from it.

Pair 4 is correct. The provision of procedure established by law has been borrowed from the Constitution of Japan.

Pair 5 is correct. The Removal Process of Supreme Court Judges has been borrowed from the Constitution of the United States. Fundamental rights, independence of judiciary, judicial review, impeachment of the president and the post of Vice-President have also been borrowed from it.

67. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. The powers, duties, and functions of the **Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India** are mentioned in **Part V** of the Constitution, specifically under **Chapter V, Articles 148-151.** Part V deals with **"The Union"** and covers the functions and powers of various Union authorities, including the CAG, who is responsible for

auditing government finances.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Election-related provisions are primarily covered in **Part XV** of the Constitution, which is titled **"Elections" (Articles 324-329A).** Part XV establishes the powers and roles of the Election Commission of India, which oversees elections to the Parliament, state legislatures, and the offices of the President and Vice-President.

Part XIV, on the other hand, deals with **"Services under the Union and the States" (Articles 308-323),** which includes provisions about the Public Service Commissions and government services.

Statement 3 is correct. The provisions related to **Scheduled and Tribal Areas** are given in **Part X** of the Constitution **(Articles 244-244A).** Part X addresses the administration and control of Scheduled Areas and Tribal Areas, empowering the President and Governors to make special provisions to ensure the protection and governance of these areas.

68. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option c is correct: The **Constitution** of India is the **foundational legal document of the country,** explicitly **defining how Parliament is to be formed, outlining its powers, and establishing its limitations** through Articles 79 to 122.

It provides the framework within which Parliament operates, including its legislative competence under **Articles 245 to 255,** and specifies procedures for **constitutional amendments in Article 368.** Without the Constitution, Parliament would not exist in its current form or possess its powers, reaffirming the Constitution's authority as supreme.

Option a is incorrect: The **Constitution of India was not approved by a national referendum.** It was drafted and adopted by the Constituent Assembly, which represented the will of the people at the time.

Option b is incorrect: The idea that **Parliament cannot alter the basic structure of the Constitution is not explicitly stated in the Constitution** itself. This principle was established by the Supreme Court in the landmark **Kesavananda Bharati case (1973).** It reflects judicial interpretation rather than a direct provision of the Constitution.

Option d is incorrect: While the **Constituent Assembly,** representing the will of the people, **enacted the Constitution before Parliament came into being,** this fact alone **does not justify the Constitution's higher authority over Parliament.** The higher authority of the Constitution stems from its status as the fundamental law of the land, which defines and limits the powers of all institutions, including Parliament.

69. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

The judiciary is one of the three organs of the government, alongside the executive and the legislature, and plays a vital role in ensuring justice, upholding the rule of law, and safeguarding the Constitution. The Indian Constitution establishes a judicial system that is both integrated and independent.

Statement I is correct: The Indian Constitution establishes an integrated judicial system by creating a hierarchical court structure, with the Supreme Court at the apex. Below the Supreme Court, there are High Courts at the state level. Under each High Court, there exists a hierarchy of subordinate courts, including district courts and other lower courts.

Statement II is correct: In India, a single system of courts enforces both central and state laws, unlike in the United States, where federal laws are enforced by the federal judiciary and state laws are enforced by separate state judiciaries.

Statement III is correct: The Supreme Court of India plays a central role in ensuring the integrated judicial system by acting as the highest court of appeal, ensuring consistency and uniformity in legal interpretations.

Hence option a is correct: Both Statement II and Statements III are correct and both of them explain Statement I.

70. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

A country is a place, a state is the authority that governs it, and a nation is a community of people bound together by shared cultural and historical ties.

Option a is correct: The **State** refers to a political institution that **represents a sovereign people who occupy a definite territory.** For example: the Indian State, the Nepali State etc. A State is a legal-political entity characterized by **four essential elements - population, territory, government and sovereignty.**

- Unlike a nation, a state is a community of persons permanently occupying a definite territory independent of external control and possessing an organized government.
- The **law-making power is derived from sovereignty** which is the most distinctive characteristic of a State. A state may comprise one or more nations.

Important Tips

A **Nation** refers to a **large group of people having a strong sense of unity** and common consciousness bonded by a 'collective identity.' This national identity is typically based on shared culture, religion, history, language, or ethnicity. Thus, it is an emotional concept. A nation can be represented in or governed by one or more states.

The **government (or the executive) is one part of the State.** 'Government' is responsible for administering and enforcing laws. The government can change with elections.

A **Country** refers to a **specific geographical and political entity** with its **own government and borders.** It may or may not be fully independent. For example, Japan is an independent country whereas Wales is a country that is a part of the United Kingdom.

71. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is correct: The First Schedule lists the **names of the States and Union Territories of India,** along with their territories. It is related to Articles 1 and 4 of the Constitution of India.

Pair 2 is correct: The Third Schedule contains forms of oaths or affirmations of the following.

- Union and State ministers (Ministers take both the oath of office and the oath of secrecy)
- **Candidates for election to the Parliament and State Legislature**
- Members of Parliament and State Legislature
- Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts
- Comptroller and Auditor General of India

The Third Schedule does not provide oaths or affirmations for the President, Vice President, Governor, Member of the Election Commission, Attorney General etc.

Pair 3 is incorrect: The **Fourth Schedule outlines the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha,** the upper house of the Parliament, to the States and Union Territories.

- **Second Schedule contains provisions** for emoluments, allowances and **privileges for the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.** Others covered under the Schedule include: President and Governor of States, Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in the states, Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council in the states, Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts and Comptroller and Auditor General of India

Pair 4 is incorrect: Provisions under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution provide for the administration of tribal areas in States of **Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram** through autonomous districts and regions, highlighting asymmetry in governance structures.

72. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Parliamentary system of government is a democratic framework where the executive is drawn from the legislature and is responsible to it. In India, this system is guided by key articles of the Constitution, such as Articles 74 and 75. These articles establish the council of ministers headed by the Prime Minister and enforces their collective responsibility to the Lok Sabha.

Option a is incorrect. The Doctrine of Separation of Power ensures that the power is divided between the various organs of the Government. It ensures the separation of powers between the executive, the Judiciary and the legislature. Through this, each organ acts as a check on the other organs of government, and this ensures the balance of power between all three.

Rather than complete Separation of Power, Parliamentary form of government follows Collective responsibility of the executive to the legislature.

Option b is incorrect. Federalism provides that the power is constitutionally divided between the national government and the regional governments, also known as the division of power. Federalism refers to the existence of more than one level of government in the country.

Thus, the given statement refers to principle of federalism and not parliamentary form of Government.

Option c is correct. In a Parliamentary democracy, **the executive is responsible to the legislature for its policies and actions. It thus establishes a responsible government. For example, in India,** the council of ministers is responsible to the Lok Sabha for all their acts of omission and commission. In broader sense, the Parliament exercises control over the ministers through various devices.

Option d is incorrect. The parliamentary system does not necessarily provide a stable government. There is no guarantee that a government can survive its tenure. For example, in India, the parliament can remove the government by passing a no-confidence motion.

The parliamentary system is **not conducive for the formulation and implementation of long-term policies** due to the uncertainty of the tenure of the government.

73. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

"Asymmetric federalism" is understood to mean federalism based on unequal powers and relationships in political, administrative and fiscal arrangements spheres between the units constituting a federation. Asymmetry in the arrangements in a federation can be viewed in both vertical (between centre and states) and horizontal (among the states) senses.

Statement 1 is correct. Federalism is a system of government where the power is divided between a central authority and various constituent units by the Constitution itself. Federalism divides power between the central/federal government and its member states. The provision that 'the Centre can unilaterally alter the names and boundaries of States' **is an example of asymmetric federal arrangement in India. Unlike India, United States of America is an example of Symmetric Federalism with respect to the Federal and provincial governments as in USA** centre and states are seen to exist on the basis of equality; neither has the power to make inroads into the defined authority and functions of the other unilaterally.

Statement 2 is correct. States having unequal representation in the Rajya Sabha is an example of the asymmetric federal arrangement in India.

In the Rajya Sabha, States are given representation based on their population. For example, Uttar Pradesh has 31 seats, while Arunachal Pradesh has only 1. It is a type of federal asymmetry.

Statement 3 is correct. 'Federal arrangements of Union Territories are different from the States' is an example of asymmetric federal arrangement in India.

The Union territories are administered by the Union Executive. They are administered by the President through an administrator appointed by him.

Whereas States are administered by the State Council of Ministers derived from the State Legislature.

74. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

A Constitution is the foundational framework of a nation, determining the allocation of powers, limits of authority, and guiding principles for governance. It serves as a social contract, ensuring harmony, justice, and a collective identity among the people.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The constitution provides only the sets and procedures on how the government should be formed and how the citizens are to be governed. Who governs them is the responsibility of the citizens and society. The Constitution doesn't deal with the personal or moral values of the elected individuals.

Statement 2 is correct. Constitution sets some limits on what a government can impose on its citizens. These limits are fundamental in the sense that government may never trespass them. For instance, the Indian Constitution guarantees Fundamental Rights, which act as constraints on arbitrary state actions.

Statement 3 is correct. A constitution is a body of fundamental principles according to which a state is constituted or governed. **It specifies the basic allocation of power in a society and its political structure. It allocates powers to various organs of the State i.e. executive, legislative and judiciary.**

Statement 4 is correct. The Constitution provides a set of basic rules that allows for minimal degree of coordination among the members of the society. Any law is made keeping in mind the bare minimum of order that is needed. Rest, it depends on the members of the society on how they relate to others and live in a harmonical manner. For example, by defining laws regarding property rights, public conduct, and dispute resolution, they enable societal coordination.

75. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The word 'Federation' has nowhere been mentioned in the constitution; thus, the **constitution does not define what constitutes Federalism.** In contrast, **Article 1 characterises India as a 'Union of States,'** signifying two important points: first, the Indian Federation does not originate from a states' agreement, and second, no state holds the authority to break away from the union.

Statement 2 is correct: Federalism often goes hand in hand with decentralisation, as it involves the distribution of powers and authority between different levels of government, allowing for more localised decision-making. For example, creation of local government led to decentralisation of authority from Central and State governments to local governments.

Statement 3 is correct: State governments have their own set of powers and responsibilities defined by the Indian Constitution. For instance, the **Seventh schedule** of the Indian Constitution defines the legislative powers of the Central and State governments. The Seventh schedule provides for three-fold distribution of legislative powers such as Union, State and Concurrent lists.

76. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

There are three offices common in both Second and third Schedule. These are:

- The Judges of the Supreme Court
- The Judges of the High Courts
- The Comptroller and Auditor- General of India

The office of Prime Minister does not find mention in both second and third Schedule of the Constitution.

1.4. Preamble

77. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

A Preamble serves as an introduction to the constitution and contains basic principles and goals of the Constitution. The word **Socialist** was inserted into the preamble of the Indian constitution by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1976 during the period of emergency.

Option a is incorrect: Unlike Indian socialism, **State Socialism** also known as Communistic socialism involves the **nationalisation of all means of production** and abolition of private property.

Option b is incorrect: Marxism Socialism believes that **factors of production should be owned and run by workers** through a well-developed and centralised structure. Marxist theories were influential in the development of socialism, which requires shared ownership by workers of the means of production.

Option c is correct: Indian brand of socialism is a 'democratic socialism' and not a 'communistic socialism' (also known as 'state socialism'). Communistic Socialism involves the nationalisation of all means of production and distribution and the abolition of private property. **Democratic socialism, on the other hand, holds faith in a 'mixed economy' where both public and private sectors co-exist side by side.** As the Supreme Court says, 'Democratic socialism aims to end poverty, ignorance, disease and inequality of opportunity.

Option d is incorrect: Ensuring equitable economic growth through **exclusive state's planning is not an idea behind Indian socialism.** Indian socialism promotes the concept of **Mixed economy** in which **private players also have autonomy to devise their own plan** and contribute to the economic development of a country, thus this statement is incorrect.

78. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Preamble refers to the introduction of the constitution and it contains the aspirations and goals of the Indian Constitution. Article 368 in part XX of the Constitution deals with the power of parliament to amend the constitution and its procedure.

Statement 1 is correct: It is true that in the **Kesavanada Bharati case,** the Supreme court held that **preamble as part of the Indian constitution.** In Kesavananda Bharati case, the supreme court reversed the ruling given in the **Berubari Union case (1960)** in which the court held that preamble is not the part of the constitution.

Statement 2 is correct: In the **Kesavananda Bharati case,** the Supreme court held that provisions of the preamble which are related to the **basic structure** of the constitution **cannot be amended** by the parliament.

Statement 3 is correct: It is true that since the enactment of the constitution, **Preamble was amended only once so far.** Preamble was amended in 1976, the **42nd constitutional amendment act, 1976** inserted the word **Socialist, Secular and Integrity** in the preamble.

79. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Preamble contains the ideals, objectives and basic principles of the Constitution which include commitment to democracy, guarantee to all the people of India; Justice, equality and freedom The Preamble covers all these dimensions of justice – social, economic and political.

Statement 1 is correct. Social Justice is the recognition or greater good to a larger number without deprivation or accrual of legal rights and is the comprehensive form to **remove social imbalance** by law harmonizing the rival claims or the interest of different groups and/or section in the social structure or individuals by means of which alone it would be possible to build up a **welfare State.** Social Justice implies that all citizens are treated equally irrespective of their status in society as a result of the accident birth, race, caste, religion, sex, title etc

Statement 2 is correct. Economic Justice means the banishment of poverty, not by expropriation of those who have but by the **multiplication of the national wealth** and resources and an equitable distribution thereof amongst all who contribute towards its production, is the aim of the state envisaged by the directive principles. Economic justice is a **facet of liberty** without which **equality of status** and **dignity of person** is teasing illusions. The ideal of economic justice is to make equality of status meaningful and life worth living at its best removing inequality of opportunity and of status-social, economic and political.

Statement 3 is correct. Political justice implies that all citizens should have equal political rights, equal access to all political offices and equal voice in the government

80. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Preamble of a constitution is an introductory statement that outlines the guiding principles, objectives, and values of the constitution and the nation it governs. It serves as a concise and powerful declaration of the foundational principles that underlie the legal and political framework of a country.

Statement 1 is correct. The preamble of the Indian Constitution **was inspired by the preamble of the Constitution of the USA.** The preamble of the Indian Constitution is based on the "objectives resolution", drafted and moved by the Pandit Nehru, and adopted by the constituent assembly on 26 November 1949.

Statement 2 is correct. It contains the philosophy that underpins the entire Constitution. It gives **a standard for examining and evaluating any government law or activity.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. The preamble to the **Constitution of India is not a source of power to the legislature. It is also not a prohibition upon the powers of the legislature.** The preamble is non-justiciable, which means its provisions are not enforceable in a court of law.

81. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Preamble to the Constitution of India presents the principles of the Constitution and indicates the sources of its authority.

Pair 1 is correct. As per the preamble of Constitution, India is a sovereign state. As a **sovereign state,** India has the option of acquiring a foreign territory or ceding a portion of its territory to a foreign state.

Pair 2 is incorrect. The phrase 'integrity of the nation' means the psychological and territorial integration of the nation. Article 1 of the Constitution describes India as a 'Union of States' to make it clear that the states have no right to secede from the Union, implying the indestructible nature of the Indian Union. It aims at overcoming hindrances to national integration like communalism, regionalism, casteism, linguism, secessionism and so on.

Pair 3 is incorrect. The Indian version of socialism is a 'democratic socialism,' **not a 'communistic socialism' (also known as state socialism,' which comprises the nationalization of the means of production and distribution and the elimination of private property**).

Democratic socialism, on the other hand, believes in a "mixed economy" in which the public and private sectors coexist.

82. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Democracy is of two types-direct and indirect. In direct democracy, the people exercise their supreme power directly as is the case in Switzerland. There are **four devices of direct democracy, namely, Referendum, Initiative, Recall and Plebiscite.** In indirect democracy, on the other hand, the representatives elected by the people exercise the supreme power and thus carry on the government and make the laws. This type of democracy, also known as representative democracy, is of two kinds-parliamentary and presidential.

Pair 1 is correctly matched: Referendum is a procedure whereby a proposed legislation is referred to the electorate for settlement by their direct votes.

Pair 2 is correctly matched: Initiative is a method by means of which the people can propose a bill to the legislature for enactment.

Pair 3 is correctly matched: Recall is a method by means of which the voters can remove a representative or an officer before the expiry of his term, when he fails to discharge his duties properly.

Pair 4 is correctly matched: Plebiscite is a method of obtaining the opinion of people on any issue of public importance. It is **generally used to solve the territorial disputes.**

83. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The **basic structure doctrine** is a common law legal doctrine that the constitution of a sovereign state has certain characteristics that cannot be erased by its legislature. It was developed by the Supreme Court of India in a series of constitutional law cases in the 1960s and 1970s that culminated in Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala, where the doctrine was formally adopted.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The basic features of the Constitution have **not been explicitly defined by the Judiciary nor by legislature.** The doctrine is not expressed and written in constitutional manner in India. The claim of any particular feature of the Constitution to be a "basic" feature is determined by the Court in each case that comes before it.

Bangladesh is perhaps the only legal system in the world which recognizes this doctrine with an expressed, written and rigid constitutional manner through article 7B of its Constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Basic Structure doctrine is recognized in **India, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Pakistan, Kenya, and Uganda. The High Court of Singapore denied the application of the basic features doctrine in Singapore.** It held that the doctrine was not applicable to the Singapore Constitution: "Considering the differences in the making of the Indian and our Constitution, it cannot be said that our Parliament's power to amend our Constitution is limited in the same way as the Indian Parliament's power to amend the Indian Constitution

84. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Constitution of India stands for a Secular State. Hence, it does not uphold any particular religion as the official religion of the Indian State. The following provisions of the Constitution reveal the secular character of the Indian State:

Statement 1 is correct: The Article 44, provides for the State to secure for all the citizens a Uniform Civil Code. It indicates that India is a Secular state.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 28 provides that **no religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution maintained by the State.** Also, Article 27 provides that no person shall be compelled to pay any taxes for the promotion of a particular religion.

Statement 3 is correct: According to Indian Constitution, every person has the right to freely profess, practice and propagate any religion. They are also equally entitled to freedom of conscience. **The Article 26 of Indian Constitution talks about the religious denomination and ensures their rights to manage its own religious affairs. Article 26 reflects secular character of Indian Constitution.**

Statement 4 is correct: Article 16 of the Indian Constitution provides that there shall be **equality of opportunity for all citizens** in matters relating to **employment or appointment** to any office under the State. Article 16 (2) says that No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence or any of them, be ineligible for, or discriminated against in respect or, any employment or office under the State". It indicates secular character of Indian Constituion.

85. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Preamble reflects the dreams and aspirations of the founding fathers of the Constitution. Preamble is regarded as the proper yardstick with which one can measure the worth of the Constitution.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Preamble is neither a source of power to legislature nor a prohibition upon the powers of legislature. The Preamble indicates only the aspirations and goals of the Constitution. Thus, the preamble cannot be regarded as the source of any power to the legislative action.

Statement 2 is correct: It is true that **preamble can be used for the legal interpretation of the constitution**. The Supreme court in **Kesavananda Bharati** case held that the preamble is of extreme importance and the constitution should be interpreted in the light of noble vision enshrined in the preamble.

Statement 3 is correct: It is true that **preamble** has **no legal effect independently of other parts** as Preamble simply serves as the identity card of the whole constitution. It means unless the word mentioned in the preamble finds expression in any other enforceable parts such as Fundamental rights, it will not have any legal effect.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Preamble is neither enforceable nor justifiable in a court of law. This implies that courts cannot pass orders against the government to implement the ideas enshrined in the Preamble.

86. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

Indian democracy, the world's largest, operates as a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic. It features a parliamentary system, regular elections, a multi-party system, and ensures fundamental rights, embracing

diversity while aiming for social justice and equality under a democratic governance framework.

Option 1 is correct: Universal Adult Franchise is fundamental to democratic governance, allowing every adult citizen the right to vote without discrimination. **It is embodied in the Indian Constitution through Article 326,** which guarantees the right to vote to all citizens aged 18 years and older, regardless of their religion, race, caste, sex, or any of them. This provision ensures that the government is elected by, and therefore accountable to, the people, embodying the essence of democracy.

Option 2 is correct: The rule of law is a cornerstone of democratic societies, ensuring that all individuals and institutions are subject to and accountable under the law that is fairly applied and enforced. **The Indian Constitution embeds this principle across various provisions but most notably through Article 14, which ensures equality before the law and equal protection of the laws to all individuals within the territory of India.** This article underpins the idea that laws apply equally to all citizens and the government itself, ensuring fairness, justice, and non-arbitrariness in the administration of the country.

Option 3 is correct: The independence of the judiciary is critical to democracy, ensuring that the judiciary functions without interference from the executive or legislative branches of government. This separation of powers is designed to ensure that justice is administered in a fair and unbiased manner. **The Indian Constitution provides for this independence through various articles, including Article 50, which directs the state to take steps to separate the judiciary from the executive.** This is further supported by the structure of the Indian judicial system, where appointments, tenure, and salaries of judges are structured to safeguard their independence.

Option 4 is correct: The Indian Constitution explicitly addresses this through Articles 15 and 16, among others. Article 15 prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth, whereas Article 16 assures equality of opportunity in matters of public employment. These articles embody the democratic ethos by promoting equality and justice for all citizens, ensuring that everyone can participate fully in the nation's life.

87. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement I and II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I: A **republic** means the **supreme power lies with the people, not a monarch.** The term republic is used in the Preamble which means Indian Constitution declares India as republic. India's **head of state** i.e President is **elected and not a hereditary position which is the essence of a republic where people can choose their representatives.**

Important Tips

Republics and monarchies are two fundamental systems of government, differing primarily in how leaders are chosen:

1. **Republic** – In a republic, leaders are chosen by the people, either directly through voting (direct democracy) or indirectly through elected representatives (representative democracy). Republics are often associated with democratic principles. Leaders typically serve for a set term and are subject to re-election. **Article** 52 of Constitution of India states that "There shall be a President of India". Further, article 54 of Constitution of India states that "The President shall be elected by the members of an electoral college consisting of— (a) the elected members of both Houses of Parliament; and (b) the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of the States." This provides for the indirect election of the Head of state of India (the President) by people of India through their representatives.
2. **Monarchy** – A monarch (king, queen, emperor) is the head of state, and the position is usually hereditary, passed down through a bloodline. Monarchs typically rule for life unless they abdicate (step down). The power resides with the monarch, though the extent of their power can vary. There are different types of monarchies:
   - Absolute Monarchy: The monarch holds absolute power.
   - Constitutional Monarchy: The monarch's power is limited by a constitution, with a parliament or elected officials holding significant power.

88. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

A secular state is one that doesn't consider any one religion as the official religion. It also treats all citizens equally, regardless of religion.

Statement 1 is correct: Indian secularism allows the government to support reforms within religions, aiming at social progress. Since a secular state must be concerned equally with all religious domination, Indian secularism has made room for and is compatible with the idea of state-supported religious reform. Thus, the Indian constitution bans untouchability.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The **Indian Constitution itself doesn't provide a formal definition of secularism.** However, the **concept is enshrined in the Constitution** through various provisions and was **explicitly added as a defining characteristic** of Indian Republic by the **42nd Constitution Amendment Act of 1976,** which declared India to be a "sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic, republic." Indian Secularism is not anti-religious. It promotes freedom and equality within and between religions.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Nehru Committee Report of **1928 drafted by Pandit Moti Lal Nehru** had **provisions** relating to **secularism,** like –

1. There shall be **no state religion for the commonwealth of India** or for any province in the commonwealth.
2. The **state**, either directly or indirectly, **shall not endow any religion**.
3. The **state shall not give any preference** or **impose any disability** on account of **religious belief** or **religious status**.

Important Tips

1. In India, secularism is about ensuring all religions are treated fairly and have equal rights. In contrast, Western nations focus on keeping the government separate from religious institutions and promoting individual religious freedom.
2. Indian secularism allows the government to support reforms within religions aimed at social progress. Western secularism generally avoids involvement in internal religious matters.
3. Indian secularism emphasizes equality not just between religions, but also within different sects of the same religion. Western models prioritize equality solely between different religions.

89. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Preamble of the Constitution of India is considered an integral part of the Constitution of India in Kesavanada Bharati Case (1973). It outlines the basic structure and ideals upon which the Indian state is founded, making it a significant aspect of India's constitutional jurisprudence. It is non-justiciable. that is, its provisions are not enforceable in courts of law.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **Preamble does not act as a prohibition on the legislative power of Parliament.** While it outlines the fundamental values and objectives of the Constitution, it does not impose restrictions on legislature. The Preamble is also not a source of power to legislature.

Statement II is correct: The Preamble of the Indian Constitution serves as a guiding light for the interpretation of the Constitution. While not legally enforceable in itself, the Preamble outlines the objectives and ideals that the Constitution seeks to achieve. Eg. The Supreme Court often refers to the Preamble when interpreting various provisions of the Constitution, especially when the language of specific articles is ambiguous or when determining the spirit and intent behind constitutional provisions.

90. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Democracy is a form of government in which the rulers are elected by the people. In a democracy, the final decision-making power must rest with those elected by the people.

Statement 1 is correct: A democracy is based on a free and fair election where those currently in power have a fair chance of losing. Thus, holding elections of any kind is not sufficient. The elections must offer a real choice between political alternatives. And it should be possible for people to use this choice to remove the existing rulers if they wish so. Elections must be held regularly after every few years.

Statement 2 is correct: Democracy is based on a fundamental principle of political equality. In a democracy, each adult citizen has one vote, and each vote has one value.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Presence of a written constitution is not mandatory for a democracy. The constitution sets the limits on the powers of government, and it can be written (example India) or unwritten (example United Kingdom).

91. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), adopted by the UN General Assembly on December 10, 1948, is a milestone document in the history of human rights. Comprising a preamble and 30 articles, it outlines fundamental human rights to be universally protected, emphasizing equality, dignity, and the rights to freedom, justice, and peace. Its principles, though not legally binding, have inspired over 70 human rights treaties globally and serve as the foundation for international human rights law.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The UDHR, adopted in 1948, has influenced constitutional developments worldwide. The Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Preamble to the Constitution of India on November 26, 1949.

The Preamble of the Indian Constitution is based on the Objectives Resolution, which was drafted by Pandit Nehru and adopted by the Constituent Assembly. The Preamble is also inspired by the Preamble of the Constitution of the United States of America. Further the values and ideals are inspired from various events and countries across the world. **Hence the preamble of India is not primarily taken from UDHR.**

Statement 2 is correct: India played an active role in drafting the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. **Hansa Mehta of India is widely credited with changing the phrase "All men are born free and equal" to "All human beings are born free and equal" in Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Hence India played a critical role in getting women rights included in the Declaration.**

92. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Preamble of the Indian Constitution is a brief introductory statement that serves as the guiding vision and foundational document for the Constitution. It lays down the fundamental values and principles that the Constitution is designed to uphold.

Option 1 is correct. The Preamble states, "We, the people of India," which indicates that the **source of the authority of the Constitution** is the people of India.

Option 2 is correct. The **date of adoption** of the Constitution is provided by the Preamble, which was **November 26, 1949**.

Option 3 is correct. The Preamble outlines the **objectives of the Constitution,** including justice, liberty, equality, and

fraternity, as well as the goal of securing these ideals for all citizens.

Option 4 is correct. The Preamble describes the **nature of the Indian state** as a "Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic."

93. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

State intervention in religious customs was deemed necessary in the Indian context to address deeply entrenched practices that stripped individuals of their fundamental dignity and self-respect, such as untouchability. These customs were so ingrained that they required active state involvement for eradication. The state's role was not solely about mutual exclusion but rather principled distance, allowing it to intervene when needed to protect individual rights and promote social justice while respecting religious freedoms.

94. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

Option 1 is correct: Regular elections in a free and fair manner are a cornerstone of democracy, allowing citizens to choose their representatives. **Free and fair elections** ensure that all eligible citizens have the opportunity to vote without coercion or discrimination. For example, the existence of the **Election Commission of India (ECI) to conduct free and fair elections** makes **India** one of the true democratic nations.

Option 2 is correct: Ensuring **every adult has an equal right to vote with equal voting value is nothing but Universal Adult Franchise.** It is a **fundamental democratic principle**. It means that every adult citizen, regardless of their background, has the right to vote, and each vote carries the same weight. This ensures that all voices are equal in the democratic process. For example, giving **higher value to the vote of one group (race, caste)** goes against the very concept of democracy i.e., equality amongst citizens.

Option 3 is correct: The principle of **No one is above the law is an essential ingredient of the rule of law**. The rule of law is vital in a democracy. It means that everyone, including **government officials and leaders, is subject to and accountable under the law**. This prevents the arbitrary exercise of power and ensures that everyone is treated equally before the law.

Option 4 is correct: An independent judiciary is crucial for **upholding the rule of law and the basic rights of citizens** which in turn are crucial aspects of democracy. Independent Judiciary acts as a check on the powers of the executive and legislative branches of government, making sure they act within the bounds of the constitution and the law. Thus, without an independent judiciary, the existence of democratic form of government is not possible.

95. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: In India's approach to secularism, the **state aims to avoid unnecessary intervention in religious matters** of both minorities as well as majorities. Indian secularism promotes a stance where the state is **equidistant from all religions**. The state intervenes in any religion, if any religious practices violate the dignity of humans.

Option b is correct: The State provides **equal treatment and respect to all religions. This is a core principle of Indian secularism**. The state ensures that no particular religion is favoured or discriminated against any other religion.

Option c is incorrect: In India, Article 25 says that all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice and propagate religion. Right to propagate implies transmission and dissemination of one's religious beliefs to others or exposition of the tenets of one's religion. But, it does not include a right to convert another person to one's own religion. Forcible conversions impinge on the 'freedom of conscience' guaranteed to all the persons alike.

However, the western notion of secularism, as practised in **France, bans open display of religion in public spaces.**

Option d is incorrect: Strict separation between the State and the religious institutions is a key principle of Western secularism. In India, there is no strict separation between the State and religion, rather the State maintains a principled distance from religious matters. This implies that any State intervention in religious affairs must align with the principles established in the Constitution

96. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Preamble, though it **outlines the philosophy and objectives of the Constitution**, is **not legally enforceable.** It does not confer any specific powers or impose legal obligations. It is used only for **interpretative purposes** by the judiciary when there is ambiguity in the provisions of the Constitution. Thus, **Preamble by itself is not enforceable in a court of law.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Supreme Court ruled that the Preamble, being a part of the Constitution, can be amended by the Parliament under Article 368. However, this amendment is subject to the condition that the 'basic features' within the Preamble cannot be amended. Procedurally, this amendment can be made with the special majority in both houses of Parliament, i.e., a majority of the total membership of the House and a majority of two-thirds of the members of the House present and voting.

The Preamble **cannot be amended with a simple majority** i.e. by a majority of the total members present and voting.

Statement 3 is incorrect: In **the State of Madras vs Srimati Champakam Dorairajan case (1951)**, the Supreme Court did not hold that the Preamble is an integral part of the Constitution. Instead, it ruled on the **conflict between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles, giving primacy to Fundamental Rights.**

Infact, the **Kesavananda Bharati case (1973)** was the first time the Supreme Court **explicitly held that the Preamble is a part of the Constitution. A similar opinion was echoed in the LIC of India Case, 1995, wherein the Supreme Court reaffirmed that the Preamble is an 'integral part' of the Constitution.**

Statement 4 is correct: Both India's Constitution and the United States Constitution begin with the phrase **"We the people"**, signifying that the **power is derived from the citizens** and not from any monarch or external authority.

97. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Substantive equality is the principle that **law must account for the different backgrounds and historical injustices faced by persons or groups.** It is a principle that seeks to achieve genuine equality by recognizing and addressing the different needs, circumstances, and historical disadvantages of various groups in society. Unlike formal equality, which treats everyone the same regardless of their background, **substantive equality aims to create fair outcomes by considering these differences.**

In **Rajive Raturi v Union of India (2024)**, the Supreme Court held accessibility for persons with disabilities (PWDs) a fundamental and human right essential to substantive equality. It also observed that **Articles 14, 19 and 21 guarantee "not only formal equality but also substantive equality,** which requires the state to take positive steps to ensure that individuals can enjoy their rights fully, irrespective of disabilities."

98. Solution: (b)

Exp) option b is the correct answer.

The **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976** is often referred to as the **"Mini-Constitution"** due to the large number of significant changes it made. It amended several parts of the Constitution, including the **Preamble**. Preamble contains the summary or essence of the Constitution.

Option 1 is correct. The term **"Socialist"** was added to the Preamble through 42nd CAA, 1976. Socialism denotes the State's commitment to the Welfare State, and its commitment to ensuring equality of opportunity.

Option 2 is correct. The term "**Secular**" was added to the Preamble through 42nd CAA, 1976. Secularism represents one of the facets of the right to equality as neither the State maintains its own religion nor restricts the freedom of religion of citizens.

Option 3 is incorrect. The term "**Fraternity**" was already a part of the **original Preamble**. It reflects the spirit of **brotherhood among all citizens.**

Option 4 is correct. The term "**Integrity**" was added to the Preamble through 42nd CAA, 1976. The term "**Integrity**" was **inserted alongside 'Unity'** to read as **"Unity and Integrity of the Nation"**, emphasizing not just the territorial unity but also the **psychological integration** of the people.

Option 5 is incorrect. The phrase **"Dignity of the Individual"** was part of the original Preamble from the beginning, stressing the **importance of human dignity** in the constitutional framework.

99. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option 1 is correct: Several Fundamental Rights of Indian Constitution explicitly reflect the secular nature of the Indian state:

- **Article 14: Equality before the law**, which upholds the principle of secularism.
- **Article 25:** Freedom of **conscience** and the right to freely **profess, practice, and propagate religion.**
- **Article 26:** Freedom to **manage religious affairs.**
- **Article 27: Prohibition of taxes** for promotion of any particular religion.
- **Article 28: Freedom from religious instructions** in certain educational institutions, etc

Option 2 is correct: Certain DPSPs of Constitution promote a secular ethos indirectly:

- **Article 44:** The state shall endeavour to **secure a Uniform Civil Code (UCC)** for its citizens, indicating secular governance in civil matters.

Option 3 is correct: Some Fundamental Duties of Constitution reflect the secular nature of the Indian state:

- **Article 51A(e):** To promote **harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood** among all people, transcending religious, linguistic, and regional or sectional diversities.
- **Article 51A(h):** To develop **scientific temper, humanism, and the spirit of inquiry** and reform.

100. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement-I is correct: India is a sovereign state as it has well-defined borders, and its government can make decisions without seeking approval from any other nation. India is also free to formulate and direct its own foreign and home policy.

Statement-II is correct and correctly explains Statement I: No external power can dictate the Government of India which means India is a sovereign State.

Statement-III is correct and correctly explains Statement I: The constitution has been drawn up and enacted by the people through their representatives and not handed down to them by a king or any outside powers. **People of India are ultimate source of authority they have supreme right to make decisions on internal as well as external matters which shows India's sovereign nature. It explicitly stated in the Preamble: "We, the people of India..."** This means that all constitutional and governmental authority emanates from the people of the country.

Hence, Both statements-II and statement-III are correct and both of them explain statement-I

101. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Preamble** to the **Constitution of India** is a brief **introductory statement** that outlines the objectives, values and philosophy of the Constitution. The Preamble declares India as a **Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic**, ensuring **justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity** to all its citizens.

While **not legally enforceable**, it serves as a guiding beacon for the executive and legislative branches in shaping their actions. It was adopted on **26th November 1949** and serves as a source of inspiration for the Constitution's interpretation.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **amendment of the Preamble** requires a **special majority of Parliament** (a majority of the total membership of the House and a majority of two-thirds of the members of the House present and voting).

This was clarified in the **Kesavananda Bharati case (1973)**, where the Supreme Court held that the **Preamble is a part of the Constitution** and **can be amended under Article 368, subject to the basic structure doctrine.**

Statement 2 is correct: The **Preamble has been amended only once**, and it was through the **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act (1976)**. The 42nd Amendment introduced the words **"Socialist," "Secular," and "Integrity"** into the Preamble.

102. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

"Principled Distance" is a concept related to the **secular nature of the Indian state, particularly in the context of the relationship between the state and religion**. It suggests that the state should maintain a balanced distance from all religions, neither favoring nor discriminating against any. This principle ensures that the state remains neutral in religious matters while protecting the rights of all religious groups.

103. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The 'Harm Principle' was developed by John Stuart Mill in his essay 'On Liberty'. The Harm Principle is the idea that **a State or any external authority should only interfere with the actions of individuals to prevent harm to others. Freedom** is at the core of human society and crucial for a dignified human life, so, it **should only be constrained in special circumstances.** The 'harm caused' must be 'serious'. For minor harm, Mill recommends only social disapproval and not the force of law.

- **Mill distinguished between 'self-regarding' actions,** i.e., those actions that have consequences only for the individual actor and nobody else, **and 'other regarding' actions,** i.e., those actions that also have consequences for others.
- He argues that with respect to self-regarding actions, the state (or any other external authority) has no business to interfere. In contrast, regarding actions that have consequences for others, there is some case for external interference.

104. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

A democratic polity can be classified into two categories—monarchy and republic. In a monarchy, the head of the state (usually king or queen) enjoys a hereditary position, that is, he comes into office through succession, e.g., Britain. In a republic, on the other hand, the head of the state is always elected directly or indirectly for a fixed period, e.g., USA.

Statements 1 and 2 are correct: India has a republican system in place of British monarchical system. In other words, the **Head of the State in India (that is, President) is elected**, while the Head of the State in Britain (that is, King or Queen) enjoys a hereditary position.

Therefore, the term 'republic' in our Preamble indicates that India has an elected head called the President. He is elected indirectly for a fixed period of five years.

A republic also means two more things: one, **vesting of political sovereignty in the people** and not in a single individual like a king; second, the **absence of any privileged class** and hence all public offices being opened to every citizen without any discrimination

Statement 3 is factually correct but does not justify the republican character of Indian Polity. Although the Indian Constitution provides for only a single citizenship, this is not the reason for India being a Republic.

105. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Preamble of the Indian Constitution was adopted based on the 'Objective Resolution' adopted by the Constituent Assembly. It enshrines the ideals of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity as the objectives of the Constitution.

Option 1 is correct: The Preamble seeks to secure the **liberty of** thought, expression, belief, **faith**, and **worship** for all citizens of India. It ensures that citizens are free from unreasonable restrictions in their ability to think, express their ideas, and act according to their beliefs and values.

Option 2 is correct: The Preamble aims to secure **equality of status and opportunity for all citizens**, promoting **a society where everyone is equal before the law.** It emphasizes the need to end traditional social inequalities and mandates that the government provide equal opportunities to all, ensuring fairness and justice for every citizen.

Option 3 is incorrect: While the Preamble emphasizes the goals of social, economic, and political justice, **it does not explicitly define political and economic liberty as part of its objectives.**

Option 4 is correct: Fraternity in the Preamble signifies that all citizens should treat each other as members of the same family, ensuring that no one is regarded as inferior. The Preamble highlights **fraternity** as a key objective, promoting the **dignity of the individual** and fostering the **unity and integrity** of the nation.

106. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The **concept of the "rule of law"** means that **all laws apply equally and in the same manner to all citizens of the country** and **no one is above the law**. It implies that every individual, regardless of position, power, wealth or status, is subject to the same laws.

This principle ensures that no one is exempt from the law, which is applied consistently and impartially. It promotes fairness, accountability, and the protection of individual rights, forming the foundation for a just and democratic society.

107. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement I is correct: Although India became a free nation on August 15, 1947, it **declared itself a Sovereign,** Democratic, and Republic **state on January 26, 1950,** the date on which **Indian Constitution came into effect, marking India's full transition to a sovereign state.**

Statement II is incorrect: In **1946,** an **interim government was established under the leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru,** who later became India's first Prime Minister. This interim government was created as a transitional body before India gained full independence from British rule on August 15, 1947. Although the interim government had a significant degree of administrative authority, it **operated under the directions of the Viceroy and the British Government in London and was not fully sovereign.**

108. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Constitutionalism refers to an idea or a principle that the **authority of the government** is derived from the body of **fundamental law of the land** and is also **limited by it**. It suggests that the working of the State should be **within the constitutional boundaries,** and no organ of the State or officeholder is allowed to exercise unlimited or arbitrary power.

Option 1 is correct. Rule of law is the principle that the **law applies equally to all individuals,** including government officials. It ensures that **no one is above the law** and prevents **arbitrary use of power. Constitutionalism** emphasizes limited government power, which is achieved through **adherence to the rule of law**. It ensures that government actions are lawful, and that citizens' rights are protected.

Option 2 is correct. A **responsible government** refers to a system where the **executive is accountable to the legislature** and, through it, to the citizens. It implies transparency, answerability, and **adherence to constitutional norms.** Constitutionalism aims to prevent abuse of power. A responsible government ensures that the executive cannot act arbitrarily, as it must justify its decisions to the legislature and the public.

Option 3 is correct. An **independent judiciary** is one that is free from external influences, particularly from the executive and legislature. It ensures **impartiality in interpreting laws** and adjudicating disputes. **Constitutionalism** requires a mechanism to ensure that the **constitution is upheld.** An independent judiciary acts as the guardian of the constitution, ensuring that laws and actions of the government conform to constitutional principles.

109. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Preamble of the Indian Constitution is a brief introductory statement that serves as the guiding vision and foundational document for the Constitution. It lays down the fundamental values and principles that the Constitution is designed to uphold.

Option a is incorrect. In Kesavananda Bharati Case, for the first time, a bench of 13 judges was assembled to hear a writ petition. **The Court held that the Preamble of the Constitution will now be considered as part of the Constitution.**

Options b is incorrect. If there is a need to formally amend the text of the Preamble, it would require the same procedure as amending any other part of the Constitution, as outlined in Article 368 of the Indian Constitution. This **procedure includes passing the amendment with a special majority in both houses of Parliament.**

Option c is incorrect. The amendment process of Preamble does not require the prior assent of the President.

Option d is correct. The Preamble has been **amended only once so far, in 1976, by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, which added three new words – socialist, secular and integrity** – to the Preamble. This amendment was held to be valid.

1.5. Union and its territory

110. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Option 1, 2 & 3 are correct. According to Article 1 of the Constitution of India, the expression 'Territory of India' includes not only the territories of the states but also union territories and territories that may be acquired by the Government of India at any future time.

111. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

According to the constitution of India (Article 2), Parliament may by law admit into the Union, or establish, new States on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit. **Also, Article 3 of the Constitution empowers the Parliament to** (a) form a new State by separation of territory from any State or by uniting two or more States or parts of States or by uniting any territory to a part of any State; (b) increase the area of any State; (c) diminish the area of any State; (d) alter the boundaries of any State; (e) alter the name of any State.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 4 of the Constitution provides that **laws of the Parliament to give effect to the**

provisions of Article 2 and 3 of the Constitution shall not be deemed to be an amendment of this Constitution for the purposes of Article 368. Hence, statement 1 is incorrect.

Statement 2 is correct: No bill for the purpose of reorganisation of states can be introduced in the Parliament except on the recommendation of the President.

Statement 3 is correct: The President shall before giving his recommendation, refer the bill to the Legislature of the State which is going to be affected by the changes proposed in the bill, for expressing its views on the changes within the period specified by the President.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The President is not, however, bound by the views of the state legislature, so ascertained. Hence the statement is incorrect.

112. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The decision of the **central government to cede part of territory of the Berubari Union** (West Bengal) to Pakistan led to political agitation and controversy and thereby necessitated the Presidential reference to the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court held that, the power of parliament to diminish the area of a state (under Article 3) does not cover the cession of Indian territory to a foreign country. **Hence, Indian territory can be ceded to a foreign state only** by an amendment under the provisions of article 368. Consequently, the 9th Constitutional amendment Act was enacted to transfer the said territory to Pakistan.

The Supreme Court, on the other hand, ruled in 1969 that resolving boundary disputes between India and another country does not necessitate a constitutional amendment. **It can be done by executive action as it does not involve the cession of Indian territory to a foreign country.**

113. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The correct chronological order is 2-4-1-3.

Dhar Commission: There had been demands from different regions, particularly South India, to reorganise the state on a linguistic basis. **Accordingly, the government of India appointed the Dhar Commission in June 1948.** It submitted its report in December 1948.

JVP Committee: The Dhar Commission recommended reorganisation of state based on administrative convenience rather than on linguistic basis which led to wide resentment and led to appointment of another committee i.e., **the JVP Committee in December 1948. It submitted its report in April 1949** and **rejected language as the basis for reorganisation of state.**

Fazl Commission: The creation of Andhra state in October 1953 intensified the demand from other regions for the creation of states on Linguistic basis. **This forced the government to appoint the Fazl Ali commission In December 1953**

State Reorganisation Act 1956: The State Reorganisation Act was **passed by the government through the 7th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1956** on the recommendation of Fazl Ali Commission.

114. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The reorganization of states in India post-independence was a complex and phased process aimed at creating administrative divisions based on linguistic and ethnic identities among other factors. The process was intended to promote political inclusiveness and bring government closer to the people.

Statement I is correct: Andhra State was the first linguistic state formed in India in 1953. It was created from the Telugu-speaking northern districts of Madras State. It marked a significant point in the linguistic reorganization of states in India.

Statement II is incorrect:

1. The Fazl Ali Commission, also known as the States Reorganisation Commission, which submitted its report in 1955, rejected the theory of "one language, one state".
2. It did accept language as one of the criteria for reorganizing states. However, it was not the only criterion, as considerations of economic viability, administrative convenience, and potential future development were also taken into account.
3. The Fazl Ali commission suggested the abolition of the four-fold classification of states under the original Constitution and creation of 16 states and 3 centrally administered territories. The Government of India accepted these recommendations with certain minor modifications.

Important Tips

1. Fazl Ali Commission's acceptance of language as a criterion came after the formation of Andhra state. Andhra state was formed due to prolonged agitation and demand from the Telugu-speaking people, primarily influenced by the death of Potti Sriramulu after his prolonged hunger strike, which catalyzed the government to form the state in 1953, while the Fazl Ali Commission's recommendations were implemented later.
2. Prior to the Fazl Ali Commission, the Dhar Commission (1948) and the JVP Committee (1948-49) had also dealt with the question of states' reorganisation. The Dhar Commission was initially skeptical about extensive linguistic states reorganisation, while the JVP Committee (comprising Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel, and Pattabhi Sitaramayya) also expressed reservations but acknowledged the public sentiment for linguistic states.

115. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Order 1-2-4-3

Junagadh -The accession of Junagadh was a more turbulent affair. The Hindu-majority state had a Muslim ruler who initially acceded to Pakistan. This triggered a conflict with the surrounding Indian territories and a large-scale migration. **Following a military intervention and a plebiscite held on February 20th, 1948, Junagadh formally joined India.**

Nizam-The Nizam of **Hyderabad**, the ruler of the largest princely state at the time, initially opted for independence. **This led to a military operation by India called Operation Polo, which concluded on September 17th, 1948.** Hyderabad's subsequent accession to India was a significant milestone in the country's unification process.

Bhopal - Bhopal was one of the last states to sign the 'Instrument of Accession'. The ruler of Bhopal acceded to the Indian government, and Bhopal became an Indian state on 1 May 1949.

Manipur- Though the Maharaja of Manipur signed an Instrument of Accession with India on August 11th, 1947, complete integration took a longer time. **Internal political dynamics and a desire for autonomy led to a 'Merger Agreement' on September 21st, 1949,** formally incorporating Manipur into the Indian Union.

116. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

Article 1 under Part I of the Constitution of India uses the term "Union of States".

Statement 1 is correct: In the Part I of the Constitution of India, the term "Union of States" was preferred over "Federation of States" by the constituent assembly. The term federation has nowhere been used in the Constitution. Article 1 of the Constitution of India describes India as Union of States because-

The Indian Federation is not the result of an agreement among the states like the American Federation.

states have no right to secede from the federation.

India is indestructible Union of states. The country is an integral whole and divided into states for administrative convenience.

Statement 2 is correct but is not the correct explanation of statement 1: Even though during an emergency, the federal structure converts into a unitary one without a formal amendment of the Constitution, but **this not the reason why the constitutional makers adopted the "Union of States".**

117. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 152 to 237 of the Indian Constitution is related to the **State Government. Article 239 to 242 of the Indian Constitution** is related to the **Union Territories.**

Statement 1 is correct- The **Governor** is the **constitutional head of the state**, appointed by the **President of India.** The **Lieutenant Governor is the administrator of a Union Territory**, appointed by the **President of India.** Therefore, the Governor is the executive head of the state, and the President is the executive head of the Union Territories.

Statement 2 is correct- In India, the Central Government and State Governments have separate powers as defined in the Constitution. There are three lists of subjects: **Union List for the Central Government, State List for State Governments, and Concurrent List for both.** This provision signifies the relationship between Centre and states to be federal in character.

Union Territories are under the Central **Government**, and the Central Government can legislate on **all subjects in Union Territories**, even **those in the State List. This signifies the unitary nature between the Union and the Union Territories.**

Statement 3 is incorrect- The **Chief Minister is the elected head of the state.** The **Lieutenant Governor is appointed (not elected) by the President of India.**

118. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

In India, the most vigorous movement for linguistic autonomy was started by the Telugu speakers. They demanded a separate state for Telugu speaking population as Andhra Pradesh. In 1952, Potti Sriramulu started fast-unto-death to support his demand for a separate state and died after a 56-day hunger strike for the cause. **Government of India acceded to the demand and also appointed a 3-member commission in 1953, called as Fazl Ali Commission to recommend reorganization of the States.**

Statement 1 is correct: The Commission accepted 'linguistic homogeneity' as the basis for reorganization. It accepted language as an important factor conducive to administrative convenience and efficiency. However, **it rejected the theory of 'one language one state'.** According to the Commission, **unity and integrity of India should be the primary consideration** in re-drawing of the borders. It accepted language not as an exclusive or binding principle, overriding all other considerations.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Commission was **not in favor of creating a separate state of Maharashtra for Marathi speaking people and Gujarat for the Gujarati speaking people.** It recommended Bombay to remain as it was, that is, a bilingual province of Gujarati and Marathi speakers. However, due to ongoing unrest, the State of Bombay was finally divided into two separate states (Maharashtra and Gujarat) in 1960.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The demand for separate Sikh state was made by Akali Dal under the leadership of Master Tara Singh. **The Fazl Ali Commission rejected the demand for creation of a Sikh state.** However, in 1966, on the recommendation of **Shah Commission**, the Punjabi speaking areas were constituted into the unilingual state of Punjab and Hindi-speaking areas were constituted into the state of Haryana and the hill areas were merged with the Himachal Pradesh.

Statement 4 is correct: The Commission had rejected creation of separate tribal states from the states of Bihar and Assam. The Commission observed that the separation of Bihar **will affect the economy of the entire state.** The tribal region of Chottanagpur Plateau provided an important industrial base. For Assam, the Commission had held that demand by tribals for a separate Hill State reflects the separatist pull of the extremist elements.

119. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The political map of India underwent continuous changes after the large-scale reorganization of the states in 1956 due to the pressure of popular agitations and political conditions. The demand for the creation of some more states on the basis of language or cultural homogeneity resulted in the bifurcation of existing states.

Option 1: The State of Nagaland was formed by taking the Naga Hills and Tuensang area out of the state of Assam **in 1963.** This was done to satisfy the movement of the hostile Nagas. However, before giving Nagaland the status of the 16th state of the Indian Union, it was placed under the control of governor of Assam in 1961.

Option 3: On the recommendation of the Shah Commission (1966), the Punjabi-speaking areas were constituted into the unilingual state of Punjab and the Hindi-speaking areas were constituted into the State of Haryana and the hill areas were merged with the adjoining union territory of Himachal Pradesh. **In 1971, the union territory of Himachal Pradesh was elevated to the status of a state (18th state of the Indian Union).**

Option 2: In 1972, in Northeast India the two union territories of **Manipur and Tripura and the sub-state of Meghalaya got statehood** and the two union territories of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh (originally known as North-East Frontier Agency–NEFA) came into being. With this, the number of states of the Indian Union increased to 21 (Manipur 19th, Tripura 20th and Meghalaya 21st).

Option 4: In 1987, three new States of **Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh and Goa** came into being as the 23rd, 24th and 25th states of the Indian Union respectively. The union territory of Mizoram was conferred the status of a full state as a sequel to the signing of a memorandum of settlement (Mizoram Peace Accord) in 1986 between the Central government and the Mizo National Front, ending the two-decade-old insurgency.

120. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The 69th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1991 granted the Union Territory of Delhi special status, renamed it the National Capital Territory of Delhi, and designated the administrator of Delhi as the lieutenant (lt.) governor.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The strength of the council of **ministers of National Capital Territory of Delhi is set at 10% of the entire strength of the legislature,** which consists of chief minister and six additional ministers.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The President of India appoints the Chief minister of National Capital Territory of Delhi, not the Lieutenant Governor. The President appoints the other ministries on the suggestion of the chief minister.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The Council of Ministers of **NCT of Delhi serves at the pleasure of the President.** The ministerial council is collectively responsible to the assembly.

121. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Lieutenant Governor is granted the authority to issue ordinances during periods when the legislative assembly is not in session. These ordinances carry the same legal weight as acts passed by the legislative assembly itself.

Statement 1 is correct. The **Lieutenant Governor cannot issue an ordinance when the legislative assembly is dissolved or suspended.** This limitation is in place to prevent the misuse of the ordinance-making power when there is no elected assembly in session to provide oversight.

Statement 2 is correct. Any ordinance promulgated by the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi **cannot be withdrawn without obtaining prior permission from the President.**

122. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement-I and II are correct and statement II explains statement I:The Union of India refers specifically to the states that form part of the federal structure, while the territory of India is a broader term.

As per **Article 1(3)** of the Indian Constitution, the **territory of India** comprises:

1. **The states (forming the Union of India),**
2. **The Union Territories, and**
3. **Any territory that may be acquired by the Government of India.**

Thus, **the territory of India covers more than just the Union of India, making it a wider expression.**

Examples of acquired territories include **Goa, Daman, and Diu,** which were incorporated into India **after their liberation from Portuguese rule.**

Statement-III is correct: India being a sovereign state can acquire foreign territories according to the modes recognised by the International law i.e. cession, occupation, conquest or subjugation. The Constitution does not explicitly give the government the power to acquire new territories. However, as a sovereign nation, India has the inherent right under international law to acquire foreign territories.

But the statement does not explain why the 'territory of India' is a wider expression than the 'Union of India'.

Thus Option b is correct as both Statement II and III are correct but Statement II only explains Statement I.

123. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

As per the Article 4 of the Indian Constitution Laws made under articles 2 and 3 to provide for the amendment of the First and the Fourth Schedules and supplemental, incidental, and consequential matters. The First Schedule lists the names of the States and Union Territories of India, along with their territories. The Fourth Schedule outlines the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha, the upper house of the Parliament, to the States and Union Territories. The amendment of these Schedules is necessary to ensure that the Constitution remains updated and adaptable to the evolving needs of the nation.

Option 1 is correct: First Schedule contains the **names of states and Union Territories and their territorial details.**

When a new state is created, the First Schedule needs to be **amended** to **include the name and boundaries of the newly formed state.**

Option 2 is incorrect: Second Schedule contains the provisions related to the **emoluments, allowances, and privileges of constitutional authorities (e.g., President, Governors, Judges, etc.).** The creation of a new state **does not require any amendment to this schedule.**

Option 3 is correct: Fourth Schedule deals with the **allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha** to the states and Union Territories.When a new state is created, Fourth Schedule is **amended to allocate Rajya Sabha seats to the new state.**

Option 4 is incorrect: Fifth Schedule deals with the provision of Administration and control of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes. **When a new state is created this schedule does not need to be amended.**

124. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 1 describes India, that is, Bharat as a 'Union of States' rather than a 'Federation of States'. This provision deals with two things: one, name of the country; and two, type of polity.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Indian Constitution provides for Emergency provisions from Article 352 to Article 360. During an emergency, the Central Government becomes all powerful and the states go into total control of the centre. It converts the federal structure into a unitary one without a formal amendment of the Constitution. **But this is not the correct reason for the use of the word 'Union of States' in the constitution.**

Statement 2 is incorrect and 3 is correct: The country is described as 'Union' although its Constitution is federal in structure. According to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the phrase **'Union of States' has been preferred to 'Federation of States' for two reasons: one, the Indian Federation is not the result of an agreement among the states like the American Federation; and two, the states have no right to secede from the federation.** The federation is an Union because it is indestructible. The country is an integral whole and divided into different states only for the convenience of administration

1.6. Citizenship

125. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 5-11 of the Indian Constitution deals with the Citizenship laws. The citizenship act 1955 provides for the termination of citizenship by three ways- renunciation, termination, and deprivation.

Option a is incorrect- When an individual voluntarily renounces their Indian citizenship, any **minor child** of that individual also **loses their Indian citizenship.** However, once such a **child reaches the age of eighteen,** they have the **option to reclaim** their Indian citizenship.

Option b is incorrect- If any citizen of India of full age and capacity, makes in the prescribed manner a declaration renouncing his Indian Citizenship, the declaration shall be registered by the prescribed authority; and, upon such registration, that person shall cease to be a citizen of India: Provided that if any such declaration is made during any war in which India may be engaged, registration thereof shall be withheld until the Central Government otherwise directs. So, the person does not automatically lose his/her Indian Citizenship when he/she renounces his/her citizenship voluntarily during the time of a war involving India. Such loss of citizenship is subject to the consideration of Central Government.

Option c is correct- The central government compulsorily terminates the citizenship of a person if he has, **within five years after registration or naturalisation, been imprisoned** in any country **for two years.**

Option d is incorrect- A person charged with **sedition** would **not lose his Indian citizenship.** Sedition is a crime that is punishable by law in India, but it is **not a ground for the loss of Indian citizenship.** The Citizenship Act of 1955 outlines three methods for losing citizenship, regardless of whether it was acquired under the Act or before it through the Constitution: renunciation, termination, and deprivation.

Important Tips

The Citizenship Act of 1955 provides for the mandatory revocation of Indian citizenship by the Central government on the ground of Deprivation if any of the following conditions are met:

a) The citizen acquired citizenship through fraudulent means.

b) The citizen displayed disloyalty to the Constitution of India.

c) The citizen engaged in unlawful trade or communication with an enemy during a war.

d) Within five years after registration or naturalization, the citizen was imprisoned in any country for two years.

e) The citizen has been continuously residing outside of India for seven years.

126. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: According to **Article 11** of the Indian Constitution, the **Parliament** has the **exclusive power to make laws regarding citizenship,** including its acquisition and termination. The **Citizenship Act, 1955** was enacted by Parliament under this provision to govern matters of citizenship.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Constitution itself does not provide detailed procedures for acquiring citizenship after 26th January 1950, it grants **Parliament the power to legislate on the matter. The Citizenship Act, 1955 specifies various modes of acquiring citizenship, including birth, descent, registration, naturalization, and incorporation of territory**. Thus, the Constitution enables the creation of citizenship laws, but the specific modes are **detailed in the Act and not in the Constitution.**

127. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) are Indian citizens who are residing outside India for various reasons, such as employment, education, or business. To be considered an NRI, an individual must have **stayed outside India for more than 182 days in the preceding financial year.**

Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) are foreign nationals (except those from Pakistan and Bangladesh) who were eligible to become Indian citizens on January 26, 1950, or were citizens of India at any time after that date. This includes individuals whose parents or grandparents were born in and were permanent residents of India. **OCI status does not depend on the number of days spent in India.** An individual can hold OCI status regardless of their duration of stay abroad.

Statement 1 is incorrect: OCIs are granted a lifelong visa to visit India and are also **exempted from the requirement to register with the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) for any length of stay** in the country.

A foreign national including an **NRI** who enters India on a visa valid for stay in India for a period of 180 days or less and **who wishes to stay in India beyond the period of 180 days, is required to register with the FRRO/FRO concerned within 14 days after the expiry of 180 days of his arrival in India.**

Statement 2 is correct: NRIs have limited voting rights. They **can vote in Indian elections only if they are physically present** in their respective constituencies during the voting period. While **OCIs** have many privileges, they are **not eligible for** certain rights available to Indian citizens, such as **voting rights,** holding constitutional positions, or government employment.

128. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Constitution deals with citizenship from **Articles 5 to 11 under Part II.** However, it contains neither any permanent nor any elaborate provisions in this regard. It only identifies the persons who became citizens of India at its commencement (i.e., on January 26, 1950). It does not deal with the problem of acquisition or loss of citizenship subsequent to its commencement. It **empowers the Parliament to enact a law** to provide for such matters and any other matter relating to citizenship. Accordingly, Parliament has enacted the **Citizenship Act, 1955,** which has been amended many times.

Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct: It is a compulsory termination of Indian citizenship by the Central government, if:

1. **A citizen has obtained citizenship by fraud.**
2. **A citizen has shown disloyalty to the Constitution of India.**
3. A citizen has unlawfully traded or communicated with the enemy during a war.
4. **A citizen has, within five years after registration or naturalisation, been imprisoned in any country for two years.**
5. A citizen has been ordinarily resident out of India for seven years continuously.

Statement 3 is incorrect: When an Indian **citizen voluntarily** (consciously, knowingly and without duress, undue influence or compulsion) **acquires the citizenship of another country,** his Indian citizenship **automatically terminates.** This provision, however, does not apply during a war in which India is engaged. **It means, the Central government does not need to compulsory terminate the citizenship as it automatically terminates in such cases.**

129. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Citizenship Amendment Act 1955 has delegated the authority to grant citizenship in case of acquisition of territory to the Government of India which can do so via executive order. If any territory becomes a part of India, the Central Government may, by order notified in the Official Gazette, specify the persons who shall be citizens of India. **For example, in 1962 the central government issued the Citizenship (Pondicherry) Order, 1962 to grant citizenship to the residents of Pondicherry.**

130. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

An Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholder is a person registered as the Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) Cardholder under the Citizenship Act, 1955.

Statement 1 is correct: The **OCI is not entitled to vote in elections to Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha/Legislative Assembly/ Council,** be a member of Legislative Assembly or Legislative Council or Parliament, cannot hold constitutional posts such as President, Vice President, Judge of Supreme Court or High Court etc.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The National Pension System (NPS) was launched in 2004 with the objective of providing retirement income to all citizens. With effect from 2009, the NPS facility has been extended to all citizens of the country. The **OCI card holders can also subscribe to NPS in parity with Non-Resident Indians (NRIs).**

Statement 3 is correct: Registered Overseas Citizens of India Cardholders are eligible to adopt children in India as they are treated at par with Non-Resident Indians in the matter of intercountry adoption of Indian children.

131. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **Supreme Court recently upheld the constitutionality of Section 6A of** the Citizenship Act, 1955 **by a 4:1 majority.**

Section 6A of the **Citizenship Act, 1955,** was introduced through the Citizenship Amendment Act of 1985 to **codify the Assam Accord**, a tripartite agreement between the Central Government, the Assam State Government, and leaders of the Assam Movement.

This section **addresses the issue of migrants from Bangladesh** by establishing **specific provisions for granting citizenship** based on their date of entry into Assam:

1. **Residents before January 1, 1966**: Individuals of Indian origin who entered Assam before this date and have been ordinarily resident in the state are deemed Indian citizens.
2. **People entering between January 1, 1966, and March 24, 1971**: Such individuals could register as Indian citizens, and were granted citizenship rights but excluded from voting for 10 years.
3. **Illegal immigrants post-March 24, 1971**: Migrants who entered Assam after this cutoff date are deemed illegal immigrants and are not eligible for citizenship under this section.

132. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Citizenship Act, 1955 deals with the determination of citizenship on or after 26th January 1950, which marks the commencement of the Act and the establishment of the Republic of India. Prior to the Citizenship Act, 1955, the legal provisions regarding citizenship in India were governed by the Indian Independence Act, 1947, and the Constitution of India, which came into effect on 26th November 1949. However, the Citizenship Act, 1955 consolidated and codified the various laws and provisions related to citizenship into comprehensive legislation.

133. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

An **Overseas Citizen of India (OCI)** is a foreign national who is of **Indian origin** and has registered under the Citizenship Act, 1955 of India. A **Non-Resident Indian (NRI)** is an Indian citizen who resides outside of India for more than **182 days** in a financial year.

Statement 1 is incorrect- Non-Resident Indians **(NRIs)** are entitled to the **same Fundamental Rights as regular citizens** under the Constitution. They can exercise voting rights, run for public office, and enjoy all the Fundamental Rights stipulated in the Constitution. On the other hand, **OCIs don't enjoy the Fundamental rights available to ordinary citizens,** and they lack voting rights and access to government jobs.

Statement 2 is incorrect- The Persons of Indian Origin (Citizenship of India) Rules, 2015, state that **OCIs are eligible to practice professions such as doctors, lawyers, and architects** in India without having to obtain a separate license. NRIs can practice professions such as doctors, lawyers, and engineers in India. However, there are some specific requirements that they must meet.

134. Solution: (b)

Exp) **Option b is the correct answer.**

Statement 1 is incorrect. National population register is a Register of usual residents of the country. It is conducted under provisions of the **Citizenship Act 1955 and the Citizenship (Registration of Citizens and issue of National Identity Cards) Rules, 2003.** It is being prepared at the local (Village/sub-Town), sub-District, District, State and National level.

Statement 2 is correct. National population register is conducted by **Office of the Registrar General and census commissioner** under ministry of home affairs

Statement 3 is incorrect. It is **mandatory** for every usual resident of India to register in the NPR.

Statement 4 is correct. The objective of the NPR is to create a comprehensive identity database of every usual resident in the country. The database would contain demographic as well as biometric particulars.

135. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Citizenship Amendment Act of 1955 classifies loss of citizenship under three categories i.e. loss of citizenship by **renunciation, termination and deprivation.**

Option 1 is incorrect: When a citizen of full age and capacity makes a declaration for renunciation of his citizenship to the Central Government, it is called as loss of citizenship by **renunciation** and **not** by deprivation. The person ceases to be a citizen when such a declaration is registered by the government.

Option 2 is correct: The **Central Government can deprive a person from citizenship,** when the citizenship has been **obtained by fraud.**

Option 3 is incorrect: The Citizenship Act, 1955 provides **for automatic termination** of citizenship if a person **voluntarily** acquires citizenship of some other country. It should be noted that the person while doing so **must act voluntarily.** It should **not be under duress, undue influence or compulsion.** Further, this provision of automatic termination of citizenship does not apply during any war in which India is engaged.

Option 4 is correct: A citizen can be deprived of his citizenship if **he shows disloyalty to the Constitution of India.** Hence, the given option is correct.

Option 5 is correct: Central Government can deprive a person of citizenship if s/he has been **imprisoned for at least 2 years, within 5 years after registration or naturalization.**

Important Tips

According to the Citizenship Act of 1955, there are three ways to lose Indian citizenship, one of which (deprivation) was discussed above. The other two include –

1. Renunciation – A full-aged citizen can declare renouncing their citizenship. This automatically terminates their citizenship but does not apply during a war in which India is engaged.
2. Termination – When an Indian citizen voluntarily (consciously, knowingly and without duress, undue influence or compulsion) acquires the citizenship of another country, his Indian citizenship automatically terminates. This provision, however, does not apply during a war in which India is engaged.

136. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Citizenship Amendment Act, 1955 classifies loss of citizenship under three categories i.e., loss of citizenship by renunciation, termination and deprivation.

Statement 1 is incorrect: When a citizen of full age and capacity makes a declaration for renunciation of his citizenship to the Central Government, it is called as loss of citizenship by **renunciation** and **not by termination**. The person ceases to be a citizen when such a declaration is registered by the government.

Statement 2 is correct: Central Government, by an order, can deprive a citizen of India from the Indian citizenship if the person has shown disloyalty to the Constitution of India.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Citizenship Act, 1955 provides **for automatic termination** of citizenship if a person **voluntarily** acquires citizenship of some other country. It should be noted that the person while doing so **must act voluntarily**. It should **not be under duress, undue influence or compulsion.** Further, this provision of automatic termination of citizenship does not apply during any war in which India is engaged.

137. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Articles 5 to 11 under Part II of the Indian Constitution deals with the provisions relating to the citizenship matters. These provisions only provide for the persons who can become citizen at the time of the commencement of the Constitution. **It does not deal with acquisition (other than at the time of commencement of the Constitution) or loss of citizenship**. Accordingly, it **empowers Parliament** to enact law for the matters relating to citizenship. Parliament has enacted laws **like Citizenship Act, 1955** in this regard. Hence, the constitution does not explicitly empower the President to make rules pertaining to citizenship in India.

Statement 2 is correct: Article 19 deals with six freedoms- freedom of speech and expression, association, assembly, residence, movement and profession. These fundamental rights are **available only to the citizens of India and not to the aliens.** Hence, the given statement is correct.

Other fundamental rights which are available only to the citizens include:

a) **Article 15**: Right against discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.

b) **Article 16**: Right to equality of opportunity in the matters of public employment.

c) **Article 29**: Protection of language, script and culture of minorities

d) **Article 30**: Right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions.

Statement 3 is correct: Article 124(3) expressly provides that **only a citizen of India can be appointed as the Judge of Supreme Court.** Besides these provisions, there are various offices to which only an Indian citizen can be appointed. These include office of **President and Vice-President of India, Judges of High Courts, Governor of states, Attorney General of India and Advocate General of States.**

Statement 4 is incorrect: As far as citizenship is concerned for the office of the President of India, **the only condition is that he should be a citizen of India**. Hence, **citizens by birth or by naturalization- both are eligible for the office of President.** Naturalization means granting citizenship by Central Government to a person (not being an illegal migrant) on meeting certain conditions. **Hence, the given statement is incorrect.**

138. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution **does not make elaborate provisions pertaining to the citizenship matters. It only prescribes who can become citizens at the time of the commencement of the Constitution**. Instead, The **Citizenship Act, 1955 deals with the citizenship rights of the persons whose territory have been incorporated into the Indian Union.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: If any foreign territory becomes a part of India, t**he Government of India specifies the persons who among the people of the territory shall be the citizens of India**. Such persons become the citizens of India from the notified date.

139. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 5 to Article 8 of Indian Constitutions deals with the four categories of person who became the citizens of India at the time of commencement of the Constitution.

Statement 1 is correct: As per Article 5 of the Indian Constitution, a person who had his **domicile in India at the time of commencement of the Constitution** was eligible to become a citizen. This is subject to the fulfillment of any of these 3 given additional conditions:

Hence, a person domiciled in India is eligible to obtain Indian citizenship, subject to fulfilling other conditions.

Statement 2 is correct: Article 8 allows for **a person of Indian origin residing outside India** to obtain citizenship **through registration**. During the commencement of the constitution, such person could have applied to the diplomatic or consular representative of India in the country of his residence.

Statement 3 is incorrect: At the time of commencement, the **Constitution did not contain any specific provision pertaining to the citizenship of a person who was neither of an Indian origin nor domiciled in India**. Hence, he was not eligible for obtaining citizenship as per the prevailing provisions. Later, Parliament enacted **Citizenship Amendment Act, 1955** which enabled such persons to obtain citizenship by naturalization, subject to other conditions.

Statement 4 is correct: Article 7 allows a person migrated from India to Pakistan and returned to India for resettlement to obtain citizenship. For this, he had to be resident in India for six months preceding the date of his application for registration.

140. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The population of India is divided into two categories and they are **citizens and non-citizens.** A citizen of a state enjoys all civil and political rights whereas a non-citizen has limited rights as compared to citizens of India.

Option 1 is incorrect: Right to property is not an exclusive right offered to citizens, it is available to both citizens and non-citizens of India. The property right was deleted from the list of Fundamental Rights by the **44thAmendment Act, 1978.** It is made a **legal right under Article 300-A** of the Constitution. Article 300A states that "No person shall be deprived of his property save by the authority of law".

Option 2 is correct: Right to vote is available only to the citizens of India. A person who is not a citizen of India is not eligible for registration as a voter in the electoral rolls in India. **Article 325** of the Indian constitution states that no person would be ineligible for inclusion in electoral rolls on the ground of **religion,race,sex or caste.**

Option 3 is correct: It is true that **only citizens of India can become the President of India. Article 58 (1)** of the constitution of India states that being a **citizen of India as one of the prerequisites** to become the President of India.

Option 4 is correct: Article 76(1)) of the Indian constitution has provisions related to the Attorney general of India. The person **appointed to be the Attorney General of India must be a citizen of India** and he/she must be qualified to be a Supreme Court judge.

Option 5 is correct: A person must be a citizen of India to become a Member of Parliament, thus it is true that only citizens have the right to become a member of the parliament. It is not to be confused with Anglo Indian members who can be nominated as members of parliament (loksabha) by the president of India. **Anglo Indians are citizens of India.**

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2.1. Fundamental Rights

1. According to Article 20 of Part III of the Indian Constitution, which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the right of 'protection against self-incrimination'?

1. It provides that a person accused of any offence shall not be compelled to be a witness against himself.
2. It extends only to the civil proceedings and not to the criminal proceedings.
3. It provides that an accused cannot be compelled to submit his thumb impression or blood specimen.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

2. Which one of the following rights are believed to be inalienable, that no one can take away and are also the source of all other rights?

(a) Fundamental Rights
(b) Natural Rights
(c) Legal Rights
(d) Civil Rights

3. Consider the following information:

Constitutional Amendment Act	Associated with	Passed during the Prime Ministership of
1. 1st Constitutional Amendment Act, 1951	Establishment of a common High Court for two or more states.	Jawahar Lal Nehru
2. 7th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1956	Addition of Ninth Schedule	Jawahar Lal Nehru
3. 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976	Insertion of new Part IVA i.e. Fundamental Duties	Indira Gandhi
4. 44th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978	Omission of Article 31 which was related to Right to Property.	Indira Gandhi

In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

4. Consider the following statements:

1. Confessions made in police custody cannot be used as evidence against the accused.
2. The accused has the right to be informed at the time of arrest of the offence for which he/she is being arrested.
3. The accused has the right to be presented before a magistrate within 24 hours of arrest.

Which of the above fundamental rights is/ are guaranteed to a citizen arrested in India (excluding cases of preventive detention)?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

5. Consider the following statements with reference to Article 15 of the Constitution of India:

1. The State cannot discriminate against any citizen only on the ground of place of residence.
2. The rights under Article 15 are enforceable by the Supreme Court and High Courts only against the actions of the State and not against private individuals.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

6. Which of the following best explains the term 'Audi alteram partem'?

(a) The right to remain silent during a trial.
(b) The principle of fair hearing in legal proceedings.
(c) The practice of prioritizing written evidence over oral testimony.
(d) The principle that no one can be a judge in their own case.

7. Which among the following Fundamental Right largely reflects the transformative character and living tree nature of Indian Constitution?

(a) Article 14
(b) Article 19
(c) Article 21
(d) Article 22

8. With reference to India, which of the following statements about Untouchability is correct?

(a) The term untouchability is defined under Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955.
(b) The Constitution under Article 17 prescribes imprisonment up to 2 years as the punishment for practising untouchability.
(c) A person convicted for preaching or practicing untouchability may get disqualified from being member of parliament or state legislatures.
(d) One of the Fundamental duties of citizens under the Constitution is to strive towards abolition of untouchability.

9. Which of the following actions are generally protected under fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution of India to its citizens?

1. Formation of a union by industrial workers.
2. Participation in a strike by industrial workers.
3. Organizing an agitation to protect the language by a minority community.
4. Residing and settling in any part of the territory of India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

10. In context of the Indian Polity, consider the following statements:

Statement-1: The complete absence of restrictions on individual liberty is an essential characteristic of a free society.

Statement-II: Individual liberty provides opportunities for individuals to enhance their capabilities.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

11. Which of the following statements best reflects Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's perspective on freedom?

(a) Freedom was solely about achieving political independence from colonial rule.
(b) Freedom involves not only political liberty but also economic and social equity.
(c) A strict adherence to traditional social norms of India, leaving no room for the influence of Western culture on native customs.
(d) A real freedom was the establishment of a global empire led by India.

12. Consider the following statements with respect to Freedom of movement of Indian citizens:

1. Article 19 of the Constitution of India protects the right to move freely within the country.
2. Article 21 of the Constitution of India provides the right to move in or out of the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

13. Consider the following statements with respect to the Padma Awards:

1. These awards are considered as 'title' for the purpose of article 18 of the Constitution of India.
2. The Padma Awards Committee is headed by the President of India.
3. Any citizen of India can send recommendations for nominations.
4. All Government servants are eligible for Padma Awards.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 1, 3 and 4
(c) 2, 3 and 4
(d) 1 and 2 only

14. Which of the following can be recognized as a crucial aspect of 'Equality' in society?

(a) Equal social status
(b) Equal distribution of wealth
(c) Equal access to privileges
(d) Equal opportunity to secure housing

15. Which of the following best exemplifies 'Natural Inequality'?

(a) Variations in physical strength and agility
(b) Disparities in income and wealth
(c) Inequalities in social status and prestige
(d) Differences in educational achievements

16. The basic tenets of 'Marxism' aims to build a society:

1. that is free of class distinctions.
2. where money and materials are the ultimate goals.
3. that ensures public control over essential resources.
4. that aims to achieve economic equality.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

17. Which of the following options best represents the concept of 'Equality through Differential Treatment'?

(a) Enacting a law to abolish the practice of untouchability
(b) Offering scholarships exclusively to students with exceptional academic achievements, without considering their financial circumstances.
(c) Providing a visually impaired person with the assistance of a scribe in a competitive exam.
(d) Enforcing strict dress codes in factories to eliminate distinction among workers.

18. Consider the following statements with reference to horizontal and vertical reservations in India:

1. Reservation for SCs, STs, and OBCs is referred to as vertical reservation.
2. Horizontal reservation refers to the equal opportunity provided to women and individuals with disabilities.
3. The Fundamental Rights under Part III of the constitution provides only for vertical reservation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) None of the aboves

19. With respect to preventive detention in India, consider the following statements:

1. It involves the detention of an individual without a formal trial or court conviction.
2. Article 20 of Indian Constitution provides safeguards for the individuals detained under preventive detention laws.
3. A person's detention is limited to two months, except when an advisory board cites substantial reasons for an extension.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) None of the above

20. Which one of the following categories of persons is not treated at par so far as the availability of Fundamental Rights in India is concerned?

(a) Members of the armed forces.
(b) Members of the forces charged with the responsibility of maintenance of public order
(c) Members of the forces employed in connection with the communications systems set-up in the country.
(d) Members of the forces employed in connection with the communication systems set-up for maintenance of public order.

21. Which of the following writs does the Supreme Court of India issue if it finds that a person is in office without the legal entitlement to hold that position?

(a) Mandamus
(b) Certiorari
(c) Quo-Warranto
(d) Prohibition

22. Which among the following is the correct statement about the gallantry award 'Param Vir Chakra'?

(a) This award can be given to an individual only once in his/her lifetime
(b) On its medal, four replicas of 'Indra Vajra' are embossed
(c) Till date, 50 people have been awarded with Param Vir Chakra
(d) This award was instituted on 26th January 1952

23. With reference to Minorities in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Indian Constitution explicitly defines the term 'Minority'.
2. The States can declare communities as minorities within their territorial jurisdiction.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

24. Why did Dr. Ambedkar consider the right to constitutional remedies as the 'heart and soul of the Constitution'?

(a) It promotes a culture of respect for constitutional norms.
(b) It ensures the separation of powers and checks and balances in the system.
(c) It provides adequate representation in jobs and education for socially and educationally backward people.
(d) It provides citizens with a legal means to restore violated fundamental rights.

25. Consider the following statements about judicial review:

1. The term Judicial Review is mentioned in Part III of the Constitution of India.
2. Judicial review allows courts to examine the constitutionality of laws passed by the legislature and actions taken by the executive.
3. The power of higher judiciary to judicial review cannot be taken away even by an amendment to the Constitution.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

26. Consider the following:

1. Freedom of commercial advertisements
2. Right against bandh called by political parties
3. Right to know about government activities
4. Right to strike

Which of the above are considered as part of Article 19 of the Constitution of India as per the various Supreme Court judgements?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

27. As per Article 13 of the Indian constitution laws that are inconsistent with or in derogation of the fundamental rights shall be void. In this context, which among the following are included in the definition of law under Article 13 of the Constitution?

1. Ordinances issued by the President of India
2. Amendments made to the Constitution under Article 368
3. Uncodified Personal laws

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

28. The Supreme court of India can declare certain laws/executive actions as unconstitutional under which of the following conditions?

1. If the law enacted by parliament violates a provision of the constitution.
2. Any laws that are against the federal provisions of the constitution.
3. Any legislative/executive actions that contravene the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP).

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

29. Consider the following statements regarding the 'procedure established by law' and the 'due process of law':
1. The term 'procedure established by law' has been explicitly mentioned in the Indian Constitution.
2. The term 'due process of law' refers to the laws made by the judiciary instead of legislature.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

30. With reference to the meaning of State as defined under Article 12 of the Constitution, consider the following statements:
1. A private body working as an instrument of the State falls within the meaning of the 'State'.
2. Urban Improvement Trusts are included in the definition of state.
3. All Private Universities are included as elements of state under Article 12.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

31. Consider the following statements regarding the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002:
1. It made the 'Right to Education' a Fundamental Right under Part III of the Constitution.
2. It made 'education for all children between the age of six to fourteen years' a Directive Principle under Part IV of the Constitution.
3. It added a new fundamental duty under Article 51A of the Constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

32. Consider the following statements regarding the 'preventive detention' law in India:
1. The Constitution of India prescribes that preventive detention cannot exceed the maximum period of three months under any circumstance.
2. Both the Centre and the States can enact laws on the matters regarding preventive detention.
3. Article 22 provides protection against preventive detention only to Indian citizens and not to foreigners.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

33. The Article 26 of the Indian Constitution deals with the 'Freedom to Manage Religious Affairs'. Under this Article, the Constitution:
1. Guarantees the right to every religious denomination to establish and maintain institutions for religious purposes.
2. Defines 'religious denomination' as a collection of individuals having common spiritual beliefs organized under a distinctive name.
3. Provides that the rights under Article 26 are subjected to the fulfillment of other Fundamental Rights.
4. Prescribes 'morality' and 'health' as reasonable grounds to impose restrictions on these rights.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

34. With reference to the Article 28 of the Indian Constitution, in which of the following institutions providing religious instruction is absolutely prohibited?
1. Institutions recognized by the state
2. Institutions receiving aid from the state
3. Institutions administered by state and established under any endowment.

4. Institutions wholly funded by the state.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(a) 4 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

35. Consider the following statements regarding Article 32 of the Indian Constitution, which has been referred to as 'heart' and 'soul' of the Indian Constitution by Dr. BR Ambedkar:

1. It declares the 'Right to Constitutional Remedies' as a part of the 'basic structure'.
2. It gives exclusive powers to the Supreme Court to issue writs for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights.
3. The concept of writs under this Article is borrowed from the English Common Law.
4. The rights granted under this Article are absolute and cannot be suspended under any circumstances.

Which of the statements given above is/ are ***incorrect***?

(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

36. The Article 13 of the Indian constitution states that any law which contravenes fundamental rights can be declared void by the Judiciary. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. Laws enacted by both the Parliament and State legislative assembly can be struck down by the High court, if it violates fundamental rights.
2. Both the Supreme court and High court can strike down the constitutional amendment act that contravenes fundamental rights.
3. No Social practice, violating fundamental rights, can be struck down by the Supreme Court.
4. Executive actions by civil servants are beyond the scope of article 13 and cannot be struck down by the Supreme court.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1,2 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 and 4 only

37. In the context of Indian polity, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The right to seek reservation in public employment is a fundamental right of citizens in India.

Statement-II: Article 16(4) of the Constitution of India allows the state to make provisions for the reservation of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizens.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

38. With reference to Writs in India, consider the following statements:

1. The origin of writs in India can be traced to the Government of India Act 1935.
2. Writs issued under Article 32 for the enforcement of fundamental rights are under the discretion of the court.
3. The Constitution of India does not provide for a time frame to file a writ under Article 32 or 226.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1,2 and 3

39. With reference to 'Fundamental Rights', which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. They are sacrosanct and cannot be amended by the parliament.
2. They acts as a restriction to the ideal of political democracy.
3. They are guaranteed and protected by the Constitution of India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

40. With reference to the doctrine of essentiality, consider the following statements:

1. It was introduced by the Supreme Court in the Shirur Mutt case of 1954.
2. It is used to determine religious practices that are protected under Article 25 of the Constitution of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

41. Consider the following fundamental rights to citizens in India:

1. Prohibition of discrimination on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them.
2. Abolition of Untouchability
3. All citizens shall have the right to freedom of speech and expression
4. Protection of right to life and personal liberty
5. Prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour

How many of the fundamental rights given above are available against the action of both private individuals and the State?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

42. With reference to the Bharat Ratna awards, consider the following statements:

1. The Prime Minister recommends the name of a person to the President for the award.
2. These come under the definition of 'titles' under Article 18 (1) of the Constitution of India.
3. The awards are given only in the fields of art, literature, science and public service.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

43. In the context of Indian polity, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: In India, it is a legally enforceable duty of the State to ensure that every child within the specified age group receives compulsory education.

Statement-II: Article 21A of the Indian Constitution guarantees the right to education as a fundamental right for children between the ages of 6 and 14 years.

Statement-III: The literacy rate of India was just around 12% at the time of independence.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, and both of them explain Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, but only one of them explains Statement-I.
(c) Only one of the Statement-II and Statement-III is correct and that explains the Statement-I.
(d) Neither Statement-II nor Statement-III is correct.

44. Which among the following provisions of the Constitution of India prohibit any person to be forced to prostitution?

(a) Article 25
(b) Article 14
(c) Article 23
(d) Article 16

45. Which one of the following best describes the concept of "Horizontal Application of Fundamental Rights" in the context of the Indian constitution?

(a) It refers to the enforcement of Fundamental Rights only against the action of State and its instrumentalities.
(b) It implies that the Parliament can make laws for the implementation of Directive Principles of State Policy evenif these laws are in violation of certain Fundamental Rights.
(c) It denotes the application of certain Fundamental Rights even against private individuals or entities, and not just against the State.
(d) It refers to the judicial review of legislative actions related to fundamental rights.

46. Article 26 of the Indian Constitution grants the freedom to manage religious affairs. In this context consider the following:

1. Public Order
2. Health
3. Sovereignty and integrity of India
4. Morality

5. Decency

As per Article 26 of the Constitution of India, how many of the above are reasonable restrictions on freedom to manage religious affairs?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

47. In Constitution of India, "Right to Education" is enshrined under-

(a) Right against Exploitation
(b) Right to Freedom
(c) Cultural and Educational Rights
(d) Right to Equality

48. Which of the following statements are correct regarding the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution of India?

1. It was added to the Constitution by the First Constitutional Amendment Act of 1951.
2. It was inserted to protect scrutiny of certain laws from judicial review.
3. The Supreme Court has struck down the blanket immunity from judicial review available to laws included in the Ninth Schedule in the I.R. Coelho Case (2007).

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

49. Consider the following options:

1. Bharat Ratna
2. Senior Advocate
3. Professor
4. Maharaja
5. Nawab

For how many of the above attachments to one's name, such as prefix or suffix will be considered as a violation of Article 18 of the Indian Constitution?

(a) 1, 2, 4 and 5
(b) 1, 3, 4 and 5
(c) 1, 4 and 5 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4

50. With reference to the Right to Freedom of Religion in the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. The State cannot impose restrictions on religious practices under any circumstances.
2. It guarantees the right to propagate one's religion.
3. The State cannot compel any person to pay taxes for the promotion or maintenance of any religious institution.
4. Religious instruction is prohibited in any educational institutions administered by the State.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 4

51. Consider the following information:

Writ	Reason for issuance	Can be issued against
1. Mandamus	It is an order issued to an official asking him/her to perform his/her public duties.	Both private individuals as well as public officials
2. Prohibition	It is issued to prevent a lower court from exceeding its jurisdiction	Only judicial and quasi-judicial authorities.
3. Quo Warranto	It is issued to quash the judgement of a lower court or tribunal	Both judicial as well as administrative authorities

In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

52. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Right to Property in India is currently a legal right available only to Indian citizens.

Statement-II: The 44th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1978 removed the Right to Property from the list of Fundamental Rights and inserted it under Article 300A of the Constitution of India.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-1 is correct Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-1 is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

53. Consider the following statements regarding Marxism and Liberalism:

1. Both Marxism and Liberalism advocate for a stateless society.
2. Liberalism emphasizes the importance of private property, while Marxism advocates for its abolition.
3. Liberalism supports market-based economies, whereas Marxism advocates for common ownership of resources.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

54. Which of the following statements are correct regarding affirmative action?

1. It seeks to promote equality through positive discrimination, favouring historically disadvantaged groups.
2. It is based on the idea that formal equality by law is not enough to achieve true equality.
3. It can include measures such as preferential spending on facilities for disadvantaged communities.

Select the answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

55. Given below are two statements, one labelled as Assertion (A) and the other as Reason (R):

Assertion (A): MGNREGA is providing employment to at least one member of the eligible household for a minimum period of 100 days in a year.

Reason (R): Right to employment is enumerated in Part III of the Constitution.

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

(a) Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
(b) Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not a correct explanation of (A).
(c) (A) is true, but (R) is false.
(d) (A) is false, but (R) is true.

56. With reference to the Other Backward Classes (OBCs), consider the following statements:

1. Creamy layer is the section of people who are a majority in a state compared to other sections.
2. The Constitution of India defines the creamy layer among the OBCs.
3. The Supreme Court has ruled that economic criterion cannot be the sole basis for deciding the creamy layer.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 1 and 3
(d) 2 and 3

57. With reference to the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

Statement-1: The Indian Constitution prohibits discrimination against any section of people under any circumstances.

Statement-II: Equality before law is guaranteed under Article 14 of the Indian Constitution.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

58. With reference to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), consider the following statements:

1. It recognizes the right of everyone to social security, including social insurance.
2. It recognizes the right of equal pay to both men and women for equal value of work.

3. It recognizes the right of everyone to access the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health
4. It recognizes the right of workers to engage in strikes under the ambit of the national laws

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

59. In the context of Indian political system, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: In India, every citizen has the right to approach the Supreme court directly in case of violation of their fundamental rights.

Statement-II: Constitutional recognition of rights is crucial for the protection of individual liberties.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

60. With reference to the Right to Protest, consider the following:

1. It is a constitutional right enshrined in Article 19.
2. It can be restricted only on the grounds of violation of public order and security of state.
3. It cannot be a ground for occupying public ways and public spaces for indefinite time.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

61. With respect to the Right to Property in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Supreme Court in Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala case, 1973, ruled that the right to property is a fundamental part of the Constitution's basic structure.
2. In 1976, the 42nd constitutional amendment removed the right to property from Fundamental Rights and changed it into a legal right under Article 300A.
3. The right to property can presently be altered or limited through standard parliamentary legislation without requiring a constitutional amendment under article 368.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

62. Which of the following form the integral part of Principle of Natural Justice?

1. An opportunity for fair hearing.
2. One cannot be a judge in his own cause.
3. The decision-making authority must act unbiased.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

63. With reference to the procedure of judicial review in India, consider the following statements:

Statement I: Legislative actions which violate fundamental rights of citizens under Part III of Constitution can be declared invalid by the Judiciary.

Statement II: Introduction of 'procedure established by law' doctrine in the Maneka Gandhi Case 1978, enabled the judiciary to question the laws on the grounds of law being unreasonable, unfair or unjust.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the statements given above?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

64. With reference to Fundamental rights under Part III of the Indian constitution, consider the following statements:

1. An individual has the freedom to waive these rights.
2. Individuals can move to courts to enforce these rights not only when the state violates them but also when the state fails to take any action for the protection of these rights.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

65. In context of India, consider the following statements:

1. A celebrity and a common man are subjected to same punishment for committing a heinous crime is an example of equality before law whereas giving relief to juveniles over adults regarding punishment for a heinous crime is an example of equal protection of law
2. The idea of 'Equality before the law' is borrowed from the American Constitution whereas the idea of 'Equal Protection of Laws' is borrowed from the British tradition.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

66. Which of the statements given below is *incorrect* in the context of Article 15 of the Constitution?

(a) The State can make special provisions for women and children.
(b) The state is authorized to make special provisions for the advancement of citizens who are socially or educationally disadvantaged.
(c) This article is applicable to the Indian Citizens only.
(d) State cannot discriminate among citizens on grounds other than religion, caste, sex, race or place of birth.

67. Which one of the following fundamental rights has not been provided to a person?

(a) Protection against prosecution and punishment for the same offence more than once.
(b) To refuse to give his/her sample of handwriting as evidence to support a prosecution against him/her.
(c) To act as a witness against himself/herself.
(d) Right not to be convicted of any offence except for violation of a law in force at the time of commission of the act charged as an offence.

68. Under Article 19(2) of the Indian Constitution, the State can make any law to impose reasonable restrictions on the exercise of the right to Freedom of Speech and Expression in the interests of which of the following?

1. Public order
2. Protection of Scheduled Tribes
3. Incitement to an offence
4. Decency and morality
5. Public health

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 3, 4 and 5 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

69. Consider the following statements:

1. Article 29 of Indian Constitution grants protection only to minorities in India to conserve their distinct language, script or culture of their own.
2. Article 30 of Indian Constitution grants protection to both majority and minority communities in India to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.
3. The constitution of India recognizes two types of minorities i.e. religious and linguistic.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

70. With reference to Martial Law under Article 34 of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. The term martial law is not defined in the Constitution.

2. The declaration of martial law results in the automatic suspension of the writ of habeas corpus.
3. The concept of Martial law has been borrowed in India from the 'Weimar Constitution of Germany'.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

71. Which of the following fundamental rights would be potentially violated if the Government of one state prohibits labourers from other states to reside anywhere in its state?
(a) Right to Constitutional Remedies
(b) Right to Freedom
(c) Right against Exploitation
(d) Cultural and Educational Rights

72. Article 13 of the Constitution of India deals with the laws inconsistent with or in derogation of the fundamental rights. In this context, consider the following:
1. Ordinance by the President
2. Customary laws
3. Executive Orders

How many of the above are considered as 'laws' under article 13?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

73. With reference to the 'Principles of Natural Justice', consider the following statements:
1. If a person is not informed about a case being heard against him in a court.
2. If a person is not allowed to challenge the evidence and arguments presented against him in a court.
3. If a person is not allowed to have a legal counsel.
4. If a person is denied a 'post decisional hearing' before a competent authority, where there is urgent need for prompt action.

How many of the above statements reflect the violation of Principles of Natural Justice'?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

74. With reference to the concept of 'Rule of Law', consider the followings:
1. Equality before law
2. Equal protection of law
3. Absence of arbitrary power of State

How many of the above mentioned are the components of 'Rule of Law'?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

75. Parliament has the power to prescribe residence as a condition for certain employment in a state/Union Territory. In this context in which of the following states/Union Territories, such a condition for employments is in force?
(a) Mizoram and Manipur
(b) Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh
(c) Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh
(d) Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

76. Article 15 of the Indian Constitution prohibits discrimination based on religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth, while allowing special provisions for advancement of certain sections. In that context consider the following:
1. Women
2. Children
3. Socially and educationally backward classes
4. Economically Weaker Section
5. Transgender Person

For how many of the above sections, the state makes special provision for the advancement under Article 15?
(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

77. Although the Indian Constitution provides reasonable restrictions to various fundamental rights, which aims to balance the individual freedom and rights to the necessity of public good and welfare. Yet there are few Fundamental rights where there is no restriction provided. In this context, consider the following Fundamental rights:
1. Article 17
2. Article 19
3. Article 21
4. Article 15

How many of the above Fundamental Rights are provided with no restrictions in the Constitution?

(a) Only One
(b) Only Two
(c) Only Three
(d) All Four

78. Constitution of India provides for various reasonable restrictions to Fundamental rights, in this context consider the following:

1. Sovereignty and Integrity of India
2. Sedition
3. Defamation
4. Contempt of Court
5. Security of the State
6. Public Order

According to the Constitution, in the interest of how many of the above, can the state make a law to impose reasonable restrictions on Freedom of Speech and Expression?

(a) Only three
(b) Only four
(c) Only five
(d) All six

79. With reference to Indian legal System, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: In India, the 'Narco Analysis test' can be conducted on an accused only with his/her consent.

Statement-II: According to Article 20, no person accused of any offence shall be compelled to be a witness against himself/herself.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

80. With reference to the Right to Freedom of Religion enshrined in the Part III of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. No person shall be compelled to pay any taxes for the promotion of any particular religion.
2. No religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution wholly maintained out of State funds.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

81. With reference to the Writ jurisdiction of the Supreme Court to enforce the fundamental rights of citizens, consider the following statements:

1. Writs are a feature borrowed from Britain.
2. The Constitution allows the Supreme Court to empower any other courts in India to issue such writs.
3. The Writ of Habeas corpus can be issued against both Public and Private parties.
4. The Writ of Mandamus can be issued against the public official asking him/her to perform their official duties.
5. Only the aggrieved persons/parties can seek the Writ of Quo Warranto.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 3 and 4 only
(b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 5 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only

82. Which of the following Fundamental rights authorizes the State to impose compulsory services for public purposes?

(a) Article 23
(b) Article 24
(c) Article 33
(d) Article 35

83. Fundamental rights enumerated in the Indian Constitution are also known as the 'conscience of the constitution'. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. All of the Fundamental Rights are negative in character.
2. Some of the Fundamental Rights can be amended by a simple majority.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

84. Consider the following statements with reference to the Fundamental rights of Indian Constitution and the Bill of Rights of the USA:

1. While taking away the rights of an individual, Indian constitution follows the due process of law while America follows the process established by law.
2. Unlike the Indian Constitution, the Right to freedom of press is explicitly mentioned in the Bill of Rights.
3. Unlike the Indian Constitution, the Right to Property is a fundamental right in the Bill of Rights.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

85. Consider the following statements with reference to the amendability of Fundamental Rights in India:

1. Presently, the Parliament has unlimited power to amend the Fundamental Rights in India.
2. In the Golaknath Case (1967), the Supreme Court had held that the parliament does not have power to amend Fundamental Rights.
3. In the Minerva Mills Case, the Supreme Court held that fundamental rights can be amended to give effect to directive principles.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

86. Consider the following statements with reference to the Article 19 of the Indian Constitution:

1. Right to Privacy is a fundamental right under the Article 19.
2. Rights of a foreigner provided under Article 19 can be invoked even if he is not present in India.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

87. Consider the following statements:

1. Article 31A provides for the compensation in case of acquisition of property by the State.
2. Article 31B does not provide protection from Judicial review while Article 31A provides the same.
3. Article 31C seeks to facilitate the implementation of Article 39(b) and Article 39(c).

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

88. Consider the following statements with reference to the Article 18 of the Indian Constitution:

1. It prohibits the hereditary titles of the nobility.
2. A foreigner residing in India cannot accept any title from any other foreign state without the consent of the President.
3. No restriction is placed by Article 18 on any citizen for accepting a present or emolument from any foreign state.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

89. Which among the following is not a fundamental right under the Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression under the Indian Constitution?

(a) Right to propagate others' views
(b) Right to telecast
(c) Right to remain silent
(d) Right to Strike

90. Article 29 of the Constitution provides for the 'Protection of Interest of Minorities'. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. This Article is applicable only to minorities.
2. Right to conserve the language under Article 29 includes the right to agitate for its protection.
3. It provides the right to establish and administer educational institutions to the minorities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

91. Which of the following rights are included in both Fundamental Rights of Indian constitution and Universal Declaration of Human Rights?
1. Right against arbitrary arrests
2. Prohibition of forced labour
3. Right to freely practice religion

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

92. Which of the following statements *is/are incorrect* regarding minority educational institutions (MEIs)?
1. MEIs rrecognised but unaided by the State are not subjected to regulatory power of state.
2. All MEIs should provide 25% reserved seats to children belonging to economically backward section of society.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

93. Who among the following enjoy immunities as the exceptions to the Article 14 under the Indian Constitution?
1. The Governor
2. Sovereigns of foreign country
3. Members of Parliament
4. Members of Agencies of United Nations

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

94. With reference to Martial law and National Emergency, consider the following statements:
1. Both Martial law and National Emergency impacts fundamental rights and Centre-State relations.
2. In contrast to Martial Law, a National Emergency results in the suspension of the government and ordinary law courts.
3. The Constitution of India provides the detailed and explicit grounds for imposition of both National Emergency and Martial Law.

How many of the above statements are correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

95. Consider the following pairs pertaining to the different types of writs and their corresponding features:

Writ	Features/ Scope
1. Habeas Corpus	It can be issued even against private individuals.
2. Mandamus	It can be issued to transfer a pending case to the writ issuing Court.
3. Certiorari	It can be issued against public official for performing an official duty.
4. Quo Warranto	It can only be requested by an aggrieved person.

How many pair(s) mentioned above is/ are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Onlythree
(d) All four

96. Which among the following constitutional rights are not contained in the Part III (Fundamental Rights) of the Indian Constitution?
1. Universal Adult Suffrage
2. Levying of tax only by the authority of law
3. Right to Free Legal Aid
4. Right against Untouchability

Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

97. The understanding of 'reasonableness' of a restriction on Fundamental Rights helps Courts in deciding the constitutionality of a statute. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. The Supreme Court has laid down a general framework for the 'reasonableness test', which is applicable to all cases.
2. Prevailing social values can be considered while deciding 'reasonableness' of a law.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

2.2. Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)

98. Which of the following may be considered as a correct utility of Directive Principle of State Policy under Part IV of Constitution of India?

1. They enable the opposition to exercise influence over the operations of the government.
2. They act as a shield against any arbitrary action by the state.
3. They facilitate stability in domestic policies in spite of the changes of the party in power.
4. They can serve as a crucial test for the welfare policies of the government.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

99. Consider the following actions:

1. The policy of non-alignment and Panchsheel followed by India in international relations.
2. Enactment of old age pension schemes by state governments.
3. Supreme Court restraining governmental actions in order to protect privacy of an individual.
4. Central legislation to protect the monuments, places and objects of national importance.

Which among the actions given above can be regarded as the implementation of 'Directive Principles of State Policy' in India?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 4 only

100. Which of the following are the Liberal–Intellectual Principles under the Directive Principles of State Policy?

1. Securing for all citizens a uniform civil code throughout the country.
2. Promoting cottage industries on an individual or co-operation basis in rural areas.
3. Maintaining just and honorable relations between nations and promoting international peace.
4. Taking steps to secure the participation of workers in the management of industries.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

101. Even though 'Directive Principles of State Policy' (DPSP) are fundamental in the governance of the country, they are non-justiciable in nature. Which one of the following is the most appropriate reason for this?

(a) To avoid conflict between the Fundamental Rights and DPSP
(b) No sufficient financial resources at the time of enactment of the constitution
(c) To ensure that the judiciary does not encroach upon the domain of the legislative branch.
(d) Inadequate development of democratic culture in the country

102. With reference to 'Part IV of Indian Constitution', consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution has classified Directive Principles into three broad categories, viz, socialistic, Gandhian and liberal–intellectual.
2. All the public authorities in India should keep in mind the ideals of directives while formulating policies and enacting laws.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

103. With reference to 'Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)', consider the following statements:

1. DPSPs promote the welfare of the community, whereas Fundamental Rights promote the welfare of the individuals, in general.
2. Unlike in case of violation of Fundamental rights, the courts cannot declare a law violative of any of the DPSPs as unconstitutional.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

104. Which of the following Directives is/ are outside the Part IV of the Indian Constitution?

1. Provision of adequate facilities for instruction in the mother-tongue at the primary stage of education.
2. Protection and improvement of the environment
3. Promotion and development of Hindi language
4. Distribution of material resources of the community in an equitable manner.
5. Consideration of the claims of the members of the Scheduled Tribes in the making of appointments to public services.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 5 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 5 only
(d) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

105. Which one of the following legislations in India directly implements the directive mentioned in Article 47 under Part IV of Indian Constitution?

(a) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005
(b) National Food Security Act, 2013
(c) Right to Education Act (RTE), 2006
(d) Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986

106. With reference to Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs) in Indian constitution, consider the following information:

Article	Provision	Inserted/ Amended into the Constitution by
1. Article 39A	To provide free legal aid to the poor	42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976
2. Article 43A	To protect and improve the environment	44th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978
3. Article 45	To provide education for all children under the age of 6 years.	86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002

In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

107. What does the Directive Principles of State Policy in India contain?

1. Societal goals and objectives to be embraced in India.
2. Certain other rights that individuals should have beyond Fundamental Rights.
3. Recommended government policies and measures for the welfare of people.
4. Duties to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood among all the people of India.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 2 and 4 only

108. What is the nature of the statement "Directive Principles are fundamental, and it shall be the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws"?

(a) A matter of judicial interpretation
(b) Explicitly written in the Constitution
(c) An established convention
(d) Subject to interpretation following parliamentary law

109. Which of the following Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs) does not have its roots in Gandhian Principles?

(a) Prohibiting the consumption of intoxicating drinks and drugs harmful to health.
(b) Promoting cottage industries.
(c) Advancing the educational and economic interests of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).
(d) Enhancing the nutrition and standard of living of the population.

110. Consider the following Directive Principles of State Policy:

1. Opportunities for healthy development of children.
2. Equal Justice and free legal aid to the poor.
3. Raise the level of nutrition and standard of living of people.
4. Protect and improve the environment and safeguard forests and wildlife.

How many of the above articles of DPSP were added through the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, of 1976?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

111. Which of the following articles of the Indian Constitution directs to ensure a living wage and a decent standard of life for all workers?

(a) Article 49
(b) Article 39
(c) Article 41
(d) Article 43

112. Which among the following Directives to the State is contained in Part IV of the Constitution of India?

(a) To strive for the promotion and development of the Hindi Language so it can serve as a medium of expression.
(b) To provide adequate facilities for instruction in the mother-tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups.
(c) To consider the claims of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for appointment in Government jobs at the Union and State levels.
(d) To raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living of people and the improvement of public health.

113. Consider the following statements regarding Directive Principles of State Policy:

1. They aim to establish economic and social democracy in the country.
2. They are not justiciable, i.e., they are not enforceable by the courts.
3. The Constitution has categorised them into three categories based on certain principles that are Gandhian, socialistic and liberal-intellectual principles.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

114. Consider the following pairings:

Directive Principles	Article of the Constitution
1. Promotion of International peace and security	Article 51
2. Separation of the judiciary and executive branches of government	Article 50
3. Organization of Village panchayats	Article 42
4. Provisions for maternal assistance	Article 40

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

115. In context of Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Directive Principles of State Policy directs the State to implement a Uniform Civil Code throughout the territory of India.
2. It provides for a single law applicable to all religious communities in matters of marriage, divorce, inheritance of property and adoption.
3. Assam has recently become the first state in India to implement a Uniform Civil Code.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

116. With reference to Constitution of India, consider the following information:

Constitutional Provisions	Enforcement by Judiciary	Imposes restrictions on
1. Fundamental Rights	Enforced by judiciary	Both executive and legislative organs of the state
2. Directive Principles of State Policy	Cannot be enforced by judiciary	Legislature but not on executive
3. Fundamental Duties	Cannot be enforced by judiciary	Do not impose restrictions on either executive or legislature

In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

117. With reference to the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs), consider the following statements:
1. They aim to establish social and economic democracy in India.
2. They resemble the "Instrument of Instructions" enumerated in the Government of India Act, 1935.
3. They are the ideals that the State should keep in mind while formulating policies and enacting laws.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, and 3

118. Which of the following bodies can be considered as 'State' for the purpose of 'Part IV' of the Constitution?
1. District Boards
2. Life Insurance Corporation of India
3. Panchayats
4. Judiciary while performing judicial functions

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

119. In the context of the Indian constitution, consider the following:
1. Protection and improvement of the environment, forests, and wildlife.
2. Safeguarding public property.
3. Promoting cooperatives.

How many of the above concerns have found a place in both Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles of State Policy?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

120. Consider the following:
1. Women
2. Industrial workmen
3. Disabled persons
4. Victims of Trafficking in Human beings or beggars as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution.

How many of the above sections of society are eligible for getting Free Legal Services under the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

121. With reference to 'Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs)', consider the following statements:
1. They resemble the "Instrument of Instructions" contained in the Government of India Act 1935.
2. They impose limitations upon legislative functions of government.
3. Laws that aim to implement the DPSPs enshrined in Article 39 shall not be challenged before any court for violating any of the fundamental rights.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

2.3. Fundamental Duties

122. Consider the following statements regarding the Fundamental Duties enshrined in the Constitution of India:
1. The Fundamental Duties in the Indian Constitution are inspired from the Irish Constitution.
2. In 1976, the Balwant Rai Mehta committee recommended the inclusion of Fundamental Duties.
3. The Fundamental Duties were added by 42nd and 86th Constitutional Amendment Acts.
4. Fundamental Duties are applicable to both Indian Citizens and Non-Citizens.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 3 only
(b) 1 and 4 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3 only

123. Which of the following Fundamental Duties are mentioned in Part IVA of the Indian Constitution?
1. To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions.
2. To provide for early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years.
3. To protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life.
4. To promote international peace and security.
5. To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India.
6. To develop scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1, 4, 5 and 6 only
(b) 2, 4 and 5 only
(c) 1, 3, 5 and 6 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 only

124. Consider the following statements regarding the significance of the Fundamental Duties:
1. They serve as a warning against antinational and antisocial activities.
2. They promote a sense of discipline and commitment among the citizens.
3. They can be enforced by the Parliament through suitable legislation.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

125. In 1999, the Verma Committee was appointed. What was the purpose of the committee?
(a) To examine the political and administrative structure in the district for the purpose of district planning.
(b) To look into the issue of Centre-State relations.
(c) To look into the issues of linguistic and religious minorities in India.
(d) To identify the existence of legal provisions for implementation of the fundamental duties.

126. With reference to the Fundamental Duties provided in the Constitution of India, which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. All the Fundamental Duties presently enumerated in the Constitution of India were added by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment of 1976.
2. They are not directly enforceable and require parliamentary legislation for their enforcement.
3. They extend to both citizens as well as foreigners.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

127. Consider the following statements:
1. Fundamental Duties can be enforced by law.
2. Fundamental Duties added through 44th constitutional amendment prescribed the duty to protect the natural environment and wildlife.
3. Fundamental Duties are applicable to both citizens of India and the foreigners.

4. Fundamental Duties were originally recommended by the Swaran Singh Committee.

How many of the above statements are correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

128. Consider the following duties:
1. To safeguard public property and to abjure violence
2. To strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity
3. To pay taxes promptly and honestly
4. To protect and improve the natural environment
5. To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity, and integrity of India

How many of the above duties are included in the Fundamental Duties under Article 51A of Indian Constitution?
(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

129. Consider the following statements:
1. There should be a penalty/punishment for non-performance of Fundamental Duties.
2. The duty to pay taxes should be a Fundamental Duty.
3. The government should ensure free and compulsory education for all children from the age of 6 to 14 years.

Which of the above were **not** a part of the Swaran Singh Committee's recommendations?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

130. With reference to Fundamental Duties enshrined in Part IVA of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Fundamental duties help the courts in examining and determining the constitutional validity of a law.

Statement-II: The Parliament has the authority to enact legislation to enforce the provisions of the Fundamental Duties.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

2.4. Cooperatives

131. Consider the following provisions of Constitution of India:
1. Fundamental Rights
2. Directive Principles of State Policy
3. Fundamental Duties

How many of the above provisions directly mention the term "Co-operative Societies"?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

132. The 97th Constitutional Amendment, which deals with cooperative societies, made changes to which of the following parts of the Constitution of India?
1. Fundamental Rights (Part III)
2. Directive Principles of State Policy (Part IV)
3. Fundamental Duties (Part IV-A)

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

133. Consider the following developments with respect to the cooperative movement in India:
1. Establishment of National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD)
2. Establishment of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB)
3. Establishment of National Cooperative Development Cooperation
4. Creation of Union Ministry of Cooperation

Which of the sequences given in the options below correctly represents the chronology of the above developments?

(a) 3-2-1-4
(b) 3-2-4-1
(c) 2-3-1-4
(d) 2-3-4-1

134. With reference to Multi-State Cooperative Societies, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Part IX B of the Constitution, which includes provisions for democratic functioning of Cooperatives in India, applies only to multi-state cooperative societies.

Statement -II: Cooperative societies are mentioned in the List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule of the constitution of India.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

135. The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls and the conduct of elections to a co-operative society shall vest in such body, as may be provided by:

(a) High Court of a State
(b) State Legislature
(c) Governor of a State
(d) State Election Commission

2.5. Basic Structure

136. Which of the following is/are correct regarding the doctrine of basic structure of the constitution?

1. Basic structure of the constitution ensures Judicial Supremacy in India.
2. The bill amending the basic structure of the constitution cannot be initiated by the state legislative assemblies.
3. Basic structure prohibits parliament from amending any of the fundamental rights given in part III of the constitution.
4. High courts in India are empowered to strike down only those laws/executive actions that violate basic structure of the constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1,3 and 4 only

137. Consider the following elements of a democratic polity:

1. Welfare state
2. Supremacy of the Parliament
3. Free and fair elections
4. Federal character of the Constitution

How many of the above-mentioned elements constitute the 'Basic structure' of Indian Constitution, as interpreted by the Supreme Court of India through its various judgements?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

138. With reference to the Basic Structure Doctrine of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. The term 'Basic Structure' is clearly defined by the Supreme Court of India.
2. The Constitutional provisions which constitute the basic structure cannot be amended by Parliament.
3. The basic structure doctrine consolidates the balance between rigidity and flexibility of the Indian Constitution.

Which of the above-given statements is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

2.6. Emergency Provisions

139. Which of the following statements about the National emergency are correct?

1. The President of India is empowered to proclaim a national emergency only after receiving a written recommendation from the Union Cabinet.
2. The Proclamation of Emergency can continue for a maximum period of six months at a time only if approved by resolutions of both the Houses of Parliament.
3. The legislative powers of the State Legislatures are suspended during the proclamation of the National Emergency.

4. The national emergency in the country can be revoked by the President of India without any parliamentary approval.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4
(c) 1 and 3
(d) 2, 3 and 4

140. As per the Indian Constitution, President's Rule can be imposed in a state under which of the following circumstances?

1. When the Governor of the state submits a report to the President regarding failure of constitutional machinery in the state.
2. If the Chief Minister of the state resigns before completing their tenure.
3. When a state fails to comply with directions issued by the Central Government.
4. In the event of a breakdown of law and order in the state.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

141. With respect to National Emergency in India, consider the following statements:

1. The President can declare a national emergency on the grounds of war, external aggression, and armed rebellion.
2. The Emergency proclamation requires approval from both Houses of Parliament within two months of its issuance.
3. National Emergency can be continued indefinitely with the approval of Parliament after every 6 months.
4. The President can revoke the proclamation of emergency only with Parliament's approval.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4
(c) 1 and 3
(d) 2, 3 and 4

142. Which of the following statements is not correct regarding the impacts of Financial Emergency in India?

(a) The Fundamental Rights provided under Part III of the Constitution are not affected when the Financial Emergency is in operation.
(b) Under Financial Emergency, President can reduce the salaries and allowances of judges of both the Supreme Court and the High Courts.
(c) During a financial emergency, the Central Government assumes complete authority over financial matters within the states.
(d) During Financial Emergency, State governments cannot pass any new money bill or financial bill.

143. With reference to Article 356 of the Constitution of India popularly called as President's Rule, consider the following statements:

1. A proclamation imposing the President's Rule must be approved by both Houses of Parliament with a majority of all the then members of the House.
2. In a state, it can be extended beyond one year only if the Governor of the state suggests such an extension.
3. Chhattisgarh and Telangana are the only States in India where the President's rule has not been imposed so far.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) None of the above

144. With reference to proclamation of emergency under Article 352 of the Indian Constitution (National Emergency), consider the following statements:

1. The President can proclaim such an emergency only after getting a written recommendation for the same from the Prime Minister.
2. The President can proclaim such an emergency even before the actual occurrence of war, external aggression or armed rebellion.
3. The declaration of such an emergency in India must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within two months of its issuance.
4. Such an emergency can be extended indefinitely with the approval of the Parliament every six months.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1, 2 and 4
(b) 1 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

145. Which of the following are the effects of the financial emergency declared in India under Article 360 of the Indian Constitution?
1. The Centre may give directions to the states to observe limits on their borrowings.
2. The Centre can give directions to Governor to reserve money bills for the consideration of the President after they are passed by the legislature of the state.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

146. With reference to Emergency provisions as enshrined in Constitution of India, consider the following statements:
1. Approval of the President's Rule requires a special majority in both the houses of the Parliament while for Financial Emergency it requires a simple majority.
2. President's Rule does not need any approval from Parliament every 6 months for its further extension, whereas Financial Emergency do need such approval in every 6 months.
3. Fundamental rights are affected under President's Rule, but not under Financial Emergency.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None of the above

147. Consider the following possible implications of financial emergency under Article 360 of the Constitution of India:

The President of India can:
1. issue directions to reduce salary of judges of Supreme court.
2. issue directions to any state to observe financial propriety.
3. declare that the powers of the state legislature related to financial matters are to be exercised by the Parliament.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

148. Suppose a hypothetical situation where Emergency under Article 352 of Indian constitution is declared on whole of India:
1. The term of the state legislative assemblies can be extended beyond the normal five-year term.
2. The President can alter the distribution of revenues between the Centre and the states.
3. Rights guaranteed under Article 19 are automatically suspended if it is declared on the grounds of armed rebellion.
4. Right to Protection under Article 20 cannot be suspended.

Based on the situation, how many of the statements above would be correct?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

149. With reference to the impact of imposition of the President rule in a state, consider the following statements:

Statement I: The Governor on behalf of the Prime Minister manages the state administration.

Statement II: President dismisses the state council of ministers headed by the Chief Minister.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

150. With reference to National Emergency in India, consider the following statement:
1. The President can proclaim the emergency only after a written recommendation from the council of ministers.

2. The proclamation of National emergency must be approved within 2 months by both houses of the Parliament.
3. It can be extended for a maximum period of 3 years.
4. The term 'National emergency' is mentioned in the constitution of India.

Which of the above statements are ***incorrect***?
(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2, 3 and 4
(d) 1, 2 and 3 only

151. With reference to the effects of the proclamation of National Emergency on the life of Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:
1. The life of Lok Sabha could be extended by only six months at a time.
2. The term of 5th Lok Sabha was extended than its normal period, as National emergency was in force at that time.
3. Parliament can extend the life of Lok Sabha by passing a law to that effect with simple majority.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 2 only

152. Consider the following statements related to financial emergency in India:
1. In the constitution, no maximum period is prescribed for its operation.
2. Parliamentary approval is required after every six months for continuation of financial emergency.
3. A proclamation of Financial Emergency may be revoked by the President at any time by a subsequent proclamation.

Which of the statements above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

153. With reference to the effects of a National Emergency on Centre –State relations, consider the following statements:
1. The state government is automatically suspended.
2. The President can issue ordinances on state subjects if Parliament is not in session.
3. The laws made by Parliament on the state subjects during a National Emergency continue to be operative till they are repealed by the respective state legislatures.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

154. With reference to the effects of President's rule in India, consider the following statements:
1. The President can take powers vested in the Governor or any other executive authority in the state.
2. After the end of the President's rule, laws made by the President during the President's rule cannot be repealed or altered by the state legislature.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

155. Which one of the following Articles of the Constitution of India was referred to as 'dead letter' by Dr. B R Ambedkar?
(a) Article 356
(b) Article 352
(c) Article 34
(d) Article 360

156. In order to extend President's rule in a state beyond the period of one year, which of the following conditions must be satisfied?
1. A Proclamation of National Emergency is in operation in the whole or any part of the state.
2. The Election Commission certifies that elections cannot be conducted in the state on account of difficulties.
3. The state has been declared as a disturbed area by the Central Government.

Select the correct answer from the code given below
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

157. With reference to effects of national emergency on Fundamental rights, consider the following statements:

During the period of national emergency:

1. Restrictions can be imposed on the freedom of press
2. A person can be arrested without fair trial
3. State can discriminate among the citizens
4. The writ of habeas corpus cannot be issued by the courts

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 2 and 4 only

2.7. Amendment to the Constitution

158. The amendment to which of the following provisions of the Constitution requires consent of at least half of the state legislatures, in addition to the special majority of the Parliament?

1. Altering the existing boundaries of the States.
2. Representation of States in Parliament.
3. Election process of both the President and the Vice-President
4. Fundamental Rights
5. Delimitation of constituencies

Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:

(a) 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 5 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only

159. With reference to various Constitutional Amendments and their subject matter, consider the following pairs:

Constitutional Amendments	Subject matter
1. 42nd Amendment Act,1976	Deleted Fundamental right to property
2. 52nd Amendment Act, 1985	Anti defection law
3. 61st Amendment Act,1989	Reduced voting age from 21 to 18
4. 100th Amendment Act,2015	Replaced collegium system with National Judicial Appointments Commission

How many pairs given above are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

160. A number of provisions in the Constitution of India can be amended by a simple majority. In this context, consider the following provisions:

1. Election of the President of India
2. Second Schedule
3. Delimitation of constituencies
4. Acquisition and termination of Citizenship
5. Directive Principles of State Policy
6. Sixth Schedule

How many of the above provisions of the Constitution of India can be amended by a simple majority of the Parliament?

(a) Only three
(b) Only four
(c) Only five
(d) All six

161. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The 100th Constitutional Amendment Act of the Constitution of India was enacted to give effect to the exchange of certain territories between India and Bangladesh.

Statement-II: Constitutional amendment under Article 368 of the Constitution of India is required to cede any part of territory of India.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

162. The 44th Amendment of the Constitution Act was enacted with the intention of restoring the Constitution to its pre-Emergency state. Who was the Prime Minister of India when the 44th Constitutional Amendment act was passed?

(a) Indira Gandhi
(b) Charan Singh
(c) Morarji Desai
(d) Vishwanath Pratap Singh

163. With reference to the Constitutional amendment bills in India, consider the following statements:

1. Its introduction in the Parliament requires prior recommendation of the President of India.
2. It can be introduced either by a private member or a minister.
3. It is obligatory for the President to give his/her assent to such a bill passed by the Parliament.
4. When such a bill is sent for consent of states, they must take action within six months.
5. It can be introduced in the Lok Sabha only.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

164. With reference to the procedure for amendment of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Amendments made under Article 3 of the Constitution require the consent of at least half of the state's legislatures.

Statement-II: Federal provisions of the Constitution can be amended only if they are ratified by the legislatures of at least half of the states.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement–I and Statement–II are correct and Statement–II is the correct explanation for Statement–I
(b) Both Statement–I and Statement–II are correct and Statement–II is not the correct explanation for Statement–I
(c) Statement–I is correct but Statement–II is incorrect
(d) Statement–I is incorrect but Statement–II is correct

165. In context of the procedure to amend the Constitution as laid down under Article 368 of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

A bill to amend the Constitution of India can:

1. be introduced only in the Parliament.
2. be passed through a joint sitting of the Parliament if the President gives a prior permission.
3. not be sent back by the President for the reconsideration of the Parliament.
4. be introduced only by a minister and not a private member of the House.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 1, 3 and 4
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

166. Consider the following provisions:

1. Adding a clause to Article 13
2. Creation of a Legislative Council in a State
3. Changing the composition of membership in the GST council.

How many of the above provisions require the constitutional amendment under the provisions of Article 368 of the Constitution of India?

(a) 1
(b) 2
(c) 3
(d) None

167. In the context of Indian Polity, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The 36th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976 was enacted to provide full-fledged statehood to Sikkim.

Statement-II: Constitutional Amendment is required under Article 368 of the Constitution of India to admit new States into the Indian Union.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

168. Consider the following Constitutional Amendment Acts (CAA):

1. 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985
2. 61st Constitutional Amendment Act, 1989
3. 91st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003

How many of the above amendments deal with the provisions related to the anti-defection law in India?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

169. With reference to Indian Polity, which of the following provisions were introduced in the Indian Constitution through the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976?

1. Extension of the term of the House of the People from five years to six years.
2. Requirement of a minimum of seven judges for the purpose of determining the constitutional validity of any Central law.
3. Introduction of ten Fundamental Duties under Part IV-A.
4. Removal of the Right to Property from Part III of the Constitution.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 2, 3 and 4
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 4

170. With the aim of establishing a more equitable society, the Government of India abolished the Privy Purses and Privileges of the rulers of pre-independence Indian states through which one of the following Constitutional Amendment Act?

(a) 26th Constitutional Amendment Act
(b) 1st Constitutional Amendment Act
(c) 24th Constitutional Amendment Act
(d) 44th Constitutional Amendment Act

171. Consider the following pairs:

Provisions of Constitution related to	Can be amended through a Bill
1. Abolition or Creation of Legislative Councils in States	Passed in each House of the Parliament by a majority of the total members present and voting of that House
2. Article 368 of the Constitution	Passed in each House of the Parliament by a majority of the then membership of that House
3. Election of President	Passed in each House of the Parliament by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting and to be ratified by the Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States by resolution to that effect passed by those Legislatures.

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

172. With reference to the One Hundred and Sixth Constitutional Amendment Act, 2023, consider the following statements:

1. It reserves thirty three percent of total seats in the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies for women.
2. The Act specifies that the reservation for women will be in place for 15 years from the date of its implementation.
3. It provides for rotation of the reserved seats for women after each delimitation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

173. In the context of India, consider the following statements:

Statement - I: The 7th Constitutional Amendment Act declared several regions of India as Union Territories.

Statement - II: States Reorganization Commission (SRC), recommended classifying India's administrative units into two categories i.e. States and Union Territories.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

174. According to Article 368 of the Indian constitution, for the amendment to which of the following provisions of the constitution, the majority of total members in each house and the two-third majority of the members present and voting in each house of the parliament and the ratification of not less than half of the state legislatures is required-

(a) Fundamental rights
(b) Salaries of Members of the Parliament
(c) Procedure of appointment of Supreme Court Judges
(d) Delimitation of Constituencies

175. A Constitutional Amendment Bill duly passed by both the Houses of the Parliament is presented to the President for assent. What are the options available with the President in this regard?

(a) S/he must give his/her assent to that Bill.
(b) S/he can either give his/her assent or withhold his/her assent
(c) S/he can give his/her assent, withhold the assent or return the bill for reconsideration.
(d) S/he can give his/her assent, withhold the assent or refer the bill to the Supreme Court to decide its constitutionality.

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SOLUTIONS

2.1. Fundamental Rights

1. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 20 of the Part III of the Indian Constitution deals with 'Protection in Respect of Conviction for Offences'. This right is available to **citizens, foreigner and the legal persons** like company etc. The Article covers three rights-

1. **No ex-post-facto law**: According to this, a person shall be convicted of any offence, except for the violation of a law in force during the commission of an offence. It also provides that no penalty can be levied which is greater than the one prescribed under the law in force at the time of commission of the offence
2. **No double jeopardy**: A person cannot be punished/ penalized more than once for the same offence
3. **No self-incrimination**: A person cannot be compelled to be a witness against himself.

Statement 1 is correct: According to Article 20, No person accused of any offence shall be compelled to be a witness against himself. According to the 180th Report of the Law Commission, the right to silence has various facets. One of them is the right of the accused against self-incrimination. In other words, an individual cannot be compelled to be a witness in his own case by giving oral or the written evidence. The Code of Criminal Procedure also gives defendant the right to remain silent.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The right against self-incrimination is available **only during criminal proceedings and not during civil proceedings or the proceedings which are not criminal in nature**. In America, the constitutional provision applies alike to both the civil and the criminal proceedings.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The protection under Article 20 does not extend to:

1. Compulsory production of material objects
2. Compulsion to give blood specimen, thumb impression, specimen signature.
3. Compulsory exhibition of body

2. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Natural rights are those rights with which an individual is supposed to have been born. These are, so to say, God-given rights. An individual is supposed to have acquired them even before the state came into existence. Since the state has no role in the creation or granting of these rights, it cannot take away or abridge these rights.

In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, political theorists argued that **rights are given to us by nature or God.** The rights of men were derived from natural law. This meant that rights were not conferred by a ruler or a society, rather we are born with them. As such these **rights are inalienable and no one can take them away from us.** They **identified three natural rights** of man: the **right to life, liberty and property. All other rights were said to be derived from these basic rights.** The idea that we are born with certain rights, is a very powerful notion because it implies that no state or organisation should take away what has been given by the law of nature. This conception of natural rights has been used widely to oppose the exercise of arbitrary power by states and governments and to safeguard individual freedom.

3. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Row 1 is incorrect: The 1st Constitutional Amendment Act of 1951 did not deal with the Establishment of common High Court for two or more states. Instead it added the **9th Schedule to the Constitution of India**. The 9th Schedule was introduced to protect certain laws from judicial review. These laws were placed in the 9th Schedule to prevent them from being challenged on the grounds of violating fundamental rights. This was done primarily to safeguard land reform laws and other social welfare legislations, which were seen as essential for the welfare of the country and its people.

It was passed during the Prime Ministership of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru whose tenure was from August 15, 1947 till May 27, 1964.

Row 2 is incorrect: The **7th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1956, was related to Establishment of a common High Court for two or more States.** It states that Parliament may by law establish a common High Court for two or more States or for two or more States and a Union territory.

It was passed during the Prime Ministership of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.

Row 3 is correct: The **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976** is one of the most significant amendments in the history of the Indian Constitution. It **added Part IVA** (Article 51A) to the Constitution, introducing a **list of Fundamental Duties** for citizens. These duties were meant to promote a sense of responsibility and patriotism among citizens.

It was passed during the Prime Ministership of Smt. Indira Gandhi whose tenure was from January 24, 1966 till March 24, 1977 and January 14, 1980 till October 31, 1984.

Row 4 is incorrect: The **44th Amendment** was a corrective measure to the changes introduced by the 42nd Amendment. One of the most notable aspects of the 44th Amendment was the **removal of the Right to Property from the list of Fundamental Rights under** Article 31. Prior to this amendment, the Right to Property was a fundamental right, but after the 44th Amendment, it became a legal right under Article 300A.

It was passed during the Prime Ministership of Shri Morarji Desai whose tenure was from March 24, 1977 till July 28, 1979.

4. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 22 of the Constitution of India and criminal law guarantee to every arrested person certain Fundamental Rights. This includes:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Confessions made in police custody **cannot be used as evidence** against the accused.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Right to be informed at the time of arrest of the offence for which the person is being arrested.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Right to be presented before a magistrate within 24 hours of arrest.
- The Right not to be ill-treated or tortured during arrest or in custody.

5. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 15 of the Constitution of India **mandates state shall not discrimination against any citizens** on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex **or place of birth.** Here, it is important to note that Supreme Court in **D.P. Joshi vs State of Madhya Pradesh, 1955** has made it clear that **place of birth and place of residence are two different things** and **states are allowed to differentiate on the basis of place of residence under this Article.** In this case, the residents of the state were allowed exemption from paying the capitation fee. But the non-residents were asked to pay a capitation fee for admission in the medical college. This was held valid by the Supreme Court.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 15 has two provisions:

1. The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them.
2. No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them, be subject to any disability, liability, restriction or condition with regard to
   - access to shops, public restaurants, hotels and places of public entertainment; or
   - the use of wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads and places of public resort maintained wholly or partly out of State funds or dedicated to the use of the general public.

The **(2) provision prohibits discrimination both by the State and private individuals,** while the former provision prohibits discrimination only by the State.

6. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The term '**Audi alteram partem**' is a **fundamental principle of natural justice**, which means "**hear the other side**" or "**let the other party be heard.**" It ensures that **no individual is condemned or penalized without being given an opportunity to present their case.** This principle is central to fair legal proceedings and emphasizes impartiality, fairness and the right to a fair hearing in any legal or administrative proceeding.

Important Tips

Nemo judex in causa Sua:

It is another **fundamental principle of Natural Justice,** which means "**no one shall be a judge in their own case.**" This principle safeguards fairness by **eliminating conflicts of interest** and promoting objective adjudication.

7. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 21 guarantees protection of life and personal liberty of the person. The Supreme Court has described this right as the "heart of Fundamental rights" and a "constitutional value of supreme importance in a democratic society" in **Francis Coralie Mullin vs The Administrator, 1981.** Further in Maneka Gandhi Case 1978, supreme Court held that **Right to Life under Article 21 is not merely confined to animal existence, but it includes within its ambit wide array of rights** which are considered essential for living with dignity and for the meaningful exercise of personal liberty. These rights are known as **inferred rights.** These rights are not explicitly mentioned in the text of Article 21 but were declared by various judgements of Supreme Court as the implicit part of Article 21. Such landmark rulings have expanded Article 21 to include rights such as education, health, privacy, and a clean environment. **This reflects transformative character and living tree nature of constitution** where it gets evolved with time through judicial interpretations.

Some of such cases are:

In M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India 1987, the Supreme Court treated the **right to live in pollution free environment** as a part of fundamental right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution.

The Supreme Court in the case of **Olga Tellis v. Bombay Municipal Corporation 1985,** held that the **right to livelihood** is inherent in the right to life because no person can live without the means of living.

Right to privacy is recognized as part of Article 21 in the landmark **Justice K.S. Puttaswamy v. Union of India** case (2017). The court declared privacy as intrinsic to life and personal liberty.

In **Lata Singh vs State of Uttar Pradesh case, Right to marry the person of one's choice** has been held as **intrinsic part of right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 by Supreme Court.**

8. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement a is incorrect: The **term untouchability is defined neither in the constitution nor in the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955.**

Statement b is incorrect: Constitution under Article 17 declares that the enforcement of any disability arising out of Untouchability **shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law.** Protection of Civil Rights Act 1955 prescribes imprisonment up to 6 months and also with fine.

Statement c is correct: Section 8 (1) (b) of Representation of People Act, 1951 prescribe that a person who is convicted for preaching or practicing untouchability may get disqualified from being member of parliament or state legislatures.

Statement d is incorrect: "To strive towards the abolition of untouchability" is not included in the Fundamental Duties of a citizen in India.

9. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Fundamental Rights in India, enshrined in **Part III** of the Constitution, protect certain actions to ensure individuals' freedoms and promote equality and justice.

Option 1 is correct. Article 19(1)(c) guarantees the **right to form associations or unions.** This includes **trade unions** by industrial workers to safeguard their interests. However, this right is subject to **reasonable restrictions** under **Article 19(4)** for public order, morality, or sovereignty and integrity of India.

Option 2 is incorrect. The right to strike is **not a Fundamental Right** in India. It is a **statutory right** governed by the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, which regulates strikes in industries.

Option 3 is correct. Minority communities have Fundamental Rights under **Article 29(1)** to conserve their distinct **language, script, or culture.** They also have the right to freely express concerns or **agitate peacefully** under **Article 19(1)(a)** (freedom of speech and expression) and **Article 19(1)(b) (right to assemble).** However, agitation must not disturb public order, incite violence, or harm sovereignty (restrictions under **Articles 19(2) and 19(3)).**

Option 4 is correct. Article 19(1)(e) guarantees the **right to reside and settle** in any part of the territory of India. Exceptions apply under **Article 19(5),** which allows restrictions in the interest of the general public or for the protection of the interests of Scheduled Tribes in certain areas.

10. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Personal liberty refers to the individual's right to make choices about their own life and to act in ways that reflect their own beliefs, values, and preferences, without any unreasonable external restraints from society, the government etc.

Statement I is incorrect: A free society means a **limited constraint** (not complete absence of restrictions) on individuals' liberty; hence **absence of restrictions is not an essential characteristic of a free society.**

No individual living in a society expects the complete absence of any kind of constraints or restrictions. It becomes necessary then to determine which social constraints are justified and which are not, which are acceptable, and which should be removed. Many theories explored this area and came up with a solution to impose limited restrictions on individual freedom.

Statement II is correct: The negative aspect of freedom pertains to the **absence of excessive restrictions,** ensuring that individuals are not unjustly hindered by arbitrary laws or cruel social norms. Conversely, the **positive dimension of freedom** involves the **provision of opportunities for individuals to enhance their capabilities, such as access to healthcare and education**. Therefore, both these aspects, i.e., reduced societal constraints and universal opportunities for personal growth can significantly **contribute to enhancing the capabilities of individuals.**

11. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The term "freedom" carries diverse meanings, and the idea of freedom has evolved over time within India and globally. In this context, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's vision of freedom is comprehensive and inclusive.

Option a is incorrect: According to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, although freedom is **primarily focused on gaining complete political independence** from colonial rule, he had a broader perspective on freedom which includes social and economic freedom too.

Option b is correct: Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose believed that the concept of freedom included not only political liberty but also economic and social liberty. He argued for **gender equality, freedom** for the individual as well as for society; freedom for the **rich as well as for the poor;** freedom for all individuals and for all classes. His view on freedom also included **equal distribution of wealth.**

Option c is incorrect: Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's view on freedom **does not include strict adherence to traditional social norms.** For example, he **argued for equality between men and women, abolition of caste hierarchies** for the social, economic and political emancipation of the nation.

Option d is incorrect: The establishment of a global empire led by India does not align with Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's view on freedom. He was primarily concerned with India's independence and well-being, rather than establishing a global empire led by India.

12. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Freedom of movement has two dimensions, namely **internal (right to move freely within the country)** and **external (right to move out of the country and right to come back to the country).** Only the **first dimension is protected by Article 19. Article 21 deals with the second dimension** (under the right to life and personal liberty).

13. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: In Balaji Raghavan vs Union of India case, the supreme court of India held that 'the Bharat Ratna and the Padma awards cannot be categorized under Article 18(1) as they are not titles but merely an honorary award'.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Padma Awards Committee is headed by the Cabinet Secretary and includes Home Secretary, Secretary to the President and four to six eminent persons as members. The recommendations of the committee are submitted to the Prime Minister and the President of India for approval.

Statement 3 is correct: The nomination process is open to the public. Even self-nomination can be made. The government allows common citizens to submit nominations for Padma Awards. The nominations, when invited, can be submitted online on the official Padma Awards website, padmaawards.gov.in.

Statement 4 is incorrect. All persons without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex are eligible for these awards. However, Government servants including those working with PSUs, except doctors and scientists, are not eligible for these Awards.

14. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Equality is one of the most cherished virtues that aims to eradicate all forms of undesirable distinctions in a society, say based on 'only' race, color, sex, etc. The concept signifies that humans possess an inherent right to **equal access to opportunities** for skill development, talent cultivation, and pursuit of their aspirations.

In a society, people differ in choices, preferences, and aptitudes, which also leads to differing levels of success. **So, personal achievement in the chosen path does not mean society is unequal.** For instance, two lawyers may differ in their approach, reputation, history of winning cases, and so on. **This may lead to discrepancies in social status, wealth, or privileges. But what truly matters is the discrepancies in an individual's access to fundamental necessities** like education, healthcare, and secure housing. **Such inequalities in access to fundamental necessities are what truly characterize an unjust and unequal society.** Hence, access to secure housing is a crucial aspect of equality in society.

15. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Natural inequality means differences in attributes or capabilities that are primarily determined by genetic and biological factors, rather than social, economic, or environmental influences. These differences are rooted in an individual's genetic makeup, such as muscle mass, bone structure, and overall physical constitution. So, variations in **physical strength and agility are considered as natural inequality**. Further**, it also includes differences in talents and capabilities. Such differences are generally assumed to be unalterable.**

On the other hand, differences in **educational achievements, disparities in income and wealth, and inequalities in social status and prestige** are shaped by a combination of social, economic, and environmental influences, making them social or environmental inequalities rather than natural inequalities. Hence, option a is the correct answer.

16. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Marxism is a social, economic, and political philosophy which was formulated by **Karl Marx and Fredrich Engels**. It suggests that society comprises two classes- the labor/working community/class (Proletariat) and ruling/capitalist class (Bourgeoisie), where the latter is responsible for the exploitation of the former.

Statements 1 and 4 are correct: According to this philosophy, when there are big differences between the rich and the working class, it can make the working people very disappointed. **They might decide to revolt to get rid of the way things are done in a capitalist system.** Marx believed that after this revolution, society would become fair and equal, with no separate classes. **Thus, a classless and equal society (political, economic and social equalities) are the basic tenets of Marxism.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Under capitalism, people tend to prioritize money and material possessions over emotions like love and affection. Karl Marx termed this phenomenon **"False Consciousness"**, where society convinces individuals that wealth and material goods are of paramount importance. **As these inequalities persist, they can eventually provoke the working class, or the proletariats, to become increasingly frustrated.** This growing frustration may drive them to **initiate a revolution aimed at abolishing the capitalist system. So, the given statement does not represent the tenets of Marxism.**

Statement 3 is correct: Marxists and socialists believe that economic inequality contributes to other types of social inequality, like differences in social status and privilege. So, **to address these inequalities, they advocate for public control over crucial natural, financial and other resources and property.** Hence, the given statement is correct.

17. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

'Equality through differential treatment' signifies that in order to achieve equality, **sometimes it becomes necessary to treat people differently to accommodate their different needs.** For instance, the provision of additional facilities for differently abled people in public places.

Statement a is incorrect: Enacting a law to abolish untouchability is an example of **'establishing formal equality'**. According to this concept, the government and the laws of the land should aim to curb the conditions/traditions that promote inequality. Article 17 of our Constitution and various laws prohibit untouchability in India.

Statement b is incorrect: Offering scholarships exclusively based on academic achievements, is an **example of treating everyone the same way** and does not represent 'equality through differential treatment'.

Statement c is correct: The idea of providing assistance of a scribe to a visually impaired person in a competitive exam aims to accommodate the special needs of such person. This will ensure that such a person also gets the opportunity to appear in such exams. By addressing such special needs, a level playing field is created. Hence, it can be termed as 'achieving equality through differential treatment'.

Statement d is incorrect: Enforcing strict uniform dress codes in factories is a **form of uniform treatment,** not 'equality through differential treatment.' **It aims to create uniformity, not address individual needs.**

18. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes is referred to as vertical reservation. It applies separately for each of the groups specified under the law.

Statement 2 is correct: Horizontal reservation refers to the equal opportunity provided to other categories of beneficiaries such as women, veterans, the transgender community, and individuals with disabilities, cutting through the vertical categories.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Article 16(4) of the Constitution contemplates vertical reservation while Article 15 (3) of the Constitution contemplates horizontal reservation. Article 15(4) and 16(4) of the Constitution provides the State and Central Governments to reserve seats in government services for the members of the SC and ST. Article 15(3) makes it possible for the state to create special provisions for protecting the interests of women and children.

Important Tips

The Supreme Court had ruled that if a person belonging to an intersection of vertical-horizontal reserved category had secured scores high enough to qualify without the vertical reservation, the person would be counted as qualifying without the vertical reservation, and cannot be excluded from the horizontal quota in the general category.

19. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Preventive detention entails holding an individual without a trial or court verdict. Its aim is not punitive but rather preventive, aiming to deter potential future offenses. It is a precautionary, suspicion-based measure.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The safeguards under Article 22 (not article 20) of the Constitution relate to preventive detention. These safeguards include limiting detention to three months, unless an advisory board justifies an extension, providing grounds of detention to the detainee, and granting an opportunity to represent against the detention order.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The original provision allowed for detention of up to three months, and the 44th Amendment Act of 1978 aimed to reduce it to two months. However, this amendment was not brought into force, so the original three-month period still applies.

20. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Members of Armed Forces are not treated at par so far as the availability of Fundamental Rights is concerned.

21. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Quo-Warranto, which means "by what authority or warrant," is a writ issued by the court to investigate the legality of a person's claim to a public office. It prevents the unauthorized holding of public office. This writ applies to substantive, permanent public offices created by law or the Constitution, not ministerial or private positions. It **can be sought by any interested person**, not just the aggrieved party, unlike the other writs.

22. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

The Param Vir Chakra, highest gallantry award in India, features a circular bronze disc 35 millimetres in diameter. **The obverse side displays the National Emblem of India at the center, surrounded by four copies of the vajra, the weapon of Indra, the ancient Vedic king of the gods.** This motif symbolizes the sacrifice of Rishi Dadhichi, who gave his bones to make the vajra to kill the demon Vritra.

On 26 January 1950, celebrated as Republic Day of India, the Param Vir Chakra was instituted as a Gallantry Medal with retrospective effect from 15 August 1947 by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the then President of India. The first recipient was Major Somnath Sharma for his actions in the 1947-48 India-Pakistan War and the last recipient was Captain Vikram Batra for actions in the Kargil War in 1999. **Till now it has been granted to 21 armed forces personnel.** The award can be given to an individual more than once.

Important Tips

Gallantry Awards in India:

- Param Vir Chakra is the highest wartime award for exceptional valor, followed by Maha Vir Chakra and Vir Chakra.
- Ashoka Chakra tops peacetime awards for bravery or sacrifice, followed by Kirti Chakra and Shaurya Chakra.
- Additional awards like Sena Medal, Nao Sena Medal, and Vayu Sena Medal are bestowed for acts of courage or devotion to duty in their respective services.

23. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution of India mentions the term 'minority' only on two occasions in Article 29 and in Article 30. The Constitution categorizes minorities as Religious or Linguistic, but did not define the term Minority. **It was left at the discretion of central government.** Using this discretionary power the central government enacted **the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 which identifies minorities as** those belonging to the communities notified under Section 2(c) of the Minorities Act.

Statement 2 is correct: State governments can **declare any religious or linguistic community, including Hindus, as a minority within the said state.** For instance, the Maharashtra government has notified 'Jews' as a minority community within the state. Moreover, the Karnataka government has notified Urdu, Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Marathi, Tulu, Lamani, Hindi, Konkani and Gujarati languages as minority languages within the state of Karnataka.

24. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: While the right to constitutional remedies does encourage respect for constitutional norms, Dr. Ambedkar's primary emphasis was on the practical enforcement of fundamental rights, not just the promotion of respect.

Option b is incorrect: Right to constitutional remedies primarily focuses on providing citizens with legal avenues to restore violated fundamental rights, rather than directly addressing the separation of powers and checks and balances within the governmental system.

Option c is incorrect: Right to constitutional remedies does not contain provision for reservation. Various provisions in **Articles 15 and 16** of the Constitution empower the State to make special provisions in education and jobs, respectively for the socially and educationally backward section of society and for the economically weaker section.

Option d is correct: Dr. Ambedkar considered the right to constitutional remedies as the 'heart and soul of the Constitution' because it provides citizens with a legal means to restore violated fundamental rights. **Articles 32 and 226 of the Constitution empower the Supreme Court and High Courts, respectively, to issue writs to protect the fundamental rights of citizens.** These writs can be used to challenge any law or action of the government that violates fundamental rights.

25. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The concept of judicial review emerged in the case of Marbury v. Madison in the USA in 1803.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The term 'judicial review' is not mentioned in Part III of the Constitution of India. However, the fact that India has a written constitution which gives the power to strike down laws violating fundamental rights (Article 13) implicitly confers this power.

Statement 2 is correct. Judicial review allows the courts to examine both legislative and executive actions. The courts have the power to assess whether the laws made by the legislature or the actions taken by the executive conform to the Constitution. If a law or executive action violates the Constitution, the courts have the authority to declare it unconstitutional or void.

Statement 3 is correct. The Supreme Court has, through its judgments, established judicial review as a **basic feature of the Constitution**. Therefore, it cannot be taken away by any constitutional amendment.

26. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 19(1)(a) of the Indian Constitution guarantees the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression, encompassing the right to express oneself through any medium, but this right is subject to reasonable restrictions outlined in Article 19(2).

Option 1 is correct. The Supreme Court of India, in the case of **Tata Press Ltd. v. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. (1995),** recognized that "commercial speech" or advertisement is a part of the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution.

Option 2 is correct. Right against bandh called by political parties is a part of freedom of speech and expression under Article 19 of the Constitution of India.The Supreme Court case of **Communist Party of India (M) v. Bharat Kumar and Others (1997),** which upheld the Kerala High Court's ruling in Bharat Kumar K. Palicha v. State of Kerala, declared that calling and enforcing a "bandh" (shutdown) by political parties is unconstitutional, infringing on citizens' fundamental rights.

Option 3 is correct. Right to know about government activities is a part of freedom of speech and expression under Article 19 of the Constitution of India. In the **State of U.P. v. Raj Narain (1975),** the Supreme Court observed that the right to know is derived from the concept of freedom of speech. The Court further held that the people of this country have a right to know every public act, everything that is done in a public way, by their public functionaries.

Option 4 is incorrect. Right to strike is only a legal right, it is not included as a part of freedom of speech and expression under Article 19 of the Constitution of India. In **T.K. Rangarajan v. Government of Tamil Nadu (2003),** the Supreme Court held that the employees have no fundamental right to resort to strike.

27. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 13 of the Constitution of India defines law. It states that any law that violates the fundamental rights shall be deemed to be void.

Option 1 is correct. As per Article 13 the term law has been given a wide connotation so as to include the laws of temporary nature like ordinances issued by the President or the state Governors. So, an ordinance can be challenged on the ground of contravention of the fundamental rights.

Article 123 of the Indian Constitution grants the President the power to promulgate ordinances during recess of Parliament, allowing for immediate action when necessary, but these ordinances must be approved by Parliament within six weeks of its reassembly.

Option 2 is incorrect. Amendments made to the Constitution under Article 368 do not come within the ambit of the meaning of law. As per Article 13 (4) of the Indian constitution– Nothing in this article shall apply to any amendment of this Constitution made under article 368.

However, they can still be challenged in court of law if they violate any basic feature of the Constitution, as held in Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala.

Option 3 is incorrect. Personal laws which have not been codified do not come within the ambit of the meaning of law. This was iterated by the Supreme Court in Narasu Appa Malli v. State of Bombay. **In the Ahmedabad Women Action Group case, 1977**, also the Supreme Court said that personal laws (Hindu Law, Muslim Law, and Christian Law) are not part of the definition of Law under Article 13.

28. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Judicial review is the power of the court to examine the constitutionality of any laws/executive actions. Judicial review is vital to ensure constitutional supremacy in India. It is important to note that the term **Judicial review has nowhere been used in the constitution.**

Statement 1 is correct: Judicial review is the power of the Supreme court to examine constitutionality of any laws/executive actions. On such examination, if the **court finds any laws/executive action which violates any provisions of the constitution, the court can declare it as unconstitutional.**

Statement 2 is correct: The Supreme court of India can declare any actions/laws as unconstitutional if it violates the **basic structure of the constitution**. As **Federal character of the constitution** is one of the basic features of the constitution, any laws/actions contravening federal structure can be declared void by the Supreme court.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) are **non-justiciable** in nature i.e., it cannot be enforced by the judiciary. Thus, any **actions/laws which contravenes DPSP cannot be declared void by the Supreme court.**

29. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Procedure established by law- Under this, **judiciary will only assess whether or not proper procedure has been followed in enacting and implementing the laws.** It upholds the law only if confirms to the procedure established. It does not go into the legislative wisdom or rationale behind the formation of a specific law even if the law goes against the principles of the natural justice.

Due process of law- Under this, judiciary **will not only check the procedural validity, but also assess whether or not a law is fair, just and reasonable.** For example, court can reject a law if it violates the principles of natural justice.

Statement 1 is correct: The term 'procedure established by law' **has been explicitly mentioned** in the India Constitution. **Article 21** states that no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to the procedure established by law.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The term 'due process of law' **does not imply that laws are made/ are to be made by the judiciary.** In other words, the judiciary does not overtake the legislative function of the Parliament. It simply **tests the laws on the grounds of reasonableness and fairness.** It aims to protect the individuals **against the arbitrary actions of both the executive and the legislature.**

30. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 12 defines the term 'State' for the purpose of different provisions concerning the fundamental rights.

Statement 1 is correct: The Supreme Court has held that the term 'state' is wide enough to include all authorities created by the Constitution or statute on whom powers are conferred by law. Thus, even a **private body** or an agency working **as an instrument of the State falls** within the meaning of the 'State' **under Article 12.** It is **not necessary** that the statutory authority should be engaged in performing governmental or sovereign function.

Statement 2 is correct: All local authorities, that is, municipalities, panchayats, district boards, improvement trusts, etc. are included under the definition of state under Article 12. According to List II of VII Schedule **'local government' includes a** municipal corporation, **urban improvement trust, district boards, mining settlement authorities** and other local authorities for the purpose of local self-government or village administration.

Statement 3 is incorrect: In Article 12, the **expression 'other authorities' is used** after mentioning the Government, Parliament of India, the Government and Legislature of each of the State and all local authorities. The Madras High Court has held that 'other authorities' could **only** mean **authorities exercising governmental or sovereign functions.** It **cannot include** persons, natural or juristic, such as, **a university unless it is 'maintained by the State'.**

31. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The 86th Constitutional Amendment Act is described as a 'dawn of the second revolution in the chapter of the citizens' rights. This is because, it makes 'education for all' a fundamental right. The constitution already contained the provision for free and compulsory education under the Directive Principle of State Policy (DPSP). But as a DPSP, it remained unenforceable till date.

Statement 1 is correct: The 86th Amendment Act of 2002 made **'Right to Education' a fundamental right.** This made **'elementary education'** a fundamental right. It inserted a new **Article 21-A** under Part III of the Constitution which provides that the "State shall provide **free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years**". Hence, it granted right to education as a fundamental right for the children between 6-14 years of age.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The 86th Amendment Act also changed the subject matter of Directive Principle of State Policy (DPSP) under Article 45, to provide that "the State shall endeavor to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years". Hence, the DPSP pertains to **only children up to 6 years of age.**

Statement 3 is correct: The 86th Amendment Act also added a new Fundamental Duty under Article 51A. It states that "it shall be the duty of every citizen of India who is a parent or a guardian to provide opportunities for education to his child or ward between the age of 6-14 years". Hence, the given statement is correct.

32. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Preventive detention means detention of a person without trial. It is meant to prevent a person from committing any

crime. In other words, the person not committed any crime yet, but the authorities anticipate him to be a threat on the law and order.

Article 22 of Part III (Fundamental Rights) contains certain provisions regarding protections to the persons arrested or detained under the preventive detention law.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution provides that detention of a person cannot exceed three months. However, in certain circumstances it can be extended **if an Advisory Board reports sufficient cause** for its extension. The Board consists of the Judges of a High Court. Article 22 also empowers Parliament to prescribe maximum detention period for more than three months without obtaining the approval of the Advisory Board. Through the 44th Constitutional Amendment Act, period of detention without obtaining the opinion of the Advisory Board has been reduced from three to two months. But this provision is yet to come into force.

Statement 2 is correct: Both the Centre and the States can make laws on the preventive detention. The Centre has exclusive rights to make a law of preventive detention on the matters connected with **defense, foreign affairs and the security of India**. On the matters pertaining to **security of the State, maintenance of public order and maintenance of supplies and services essential to the community, both the Centre and the States can concurrently enact laws.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: Protection under Article 22 regarding preventive detention is applicable to both- Indian citizens and the foreigners. The protection includes:

1. The detention of a person cannot exceed three months unless an advisory board reports sufficient cause for extended detention
2. The grounds of detention should be communicated to the detenu. However, the facts considered to be against the public interest need not be disclosed.
3. The detenu should be afforded an opportunity to make a representation against the detention order.

33. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 26 of the Indian Constitution deals with **Freedom to Manage Religious Affairs.** This Fundamental Right deals with the rights of religious denomination or any of its sections. Individual's rights to the Freedom of Religion are dealt with in Article 25.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 26 grants following rights to the religious denominations (or its sections):

1. Right to **establish and maintain** institutions for **religious and charitable purposes**.
2. Right to **manage its own affairs** in the matters of religion.
3. Right to **own or acquire immovable property**.
4. Right to **administer such property** in accordance with the law.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The **Constitution does NOT define the term religious denomination**. It has been defined by the **Supreme Court of India in the Shirur Mutt case.** A religious denomination should satisfy the following conditions

1. It should be a **collection of individuals** sharing beliefs for their spiritual well-being.
2. It should have a **common organization.**
3. It should be designated by a **distinctive name.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: The **rights granted under Article 26 are not subjected to any other Fundamental Rights**. In other words, they are not subordinate to other Fundamental Rights. Hence, the given statement is incorrect. It should be noted that **rights under Article 25** (Freedom of Conscience, Free Profession, Practice and Propagation) are subject to other provisions relating to the Fundamental Rights.

Statement 4 is correct: The Constitution explicitly provides that the rights granted under Article 26 are subject to **public order, health and morality.** Hence, the given statement is correct.

34. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 28 deals with the Freedom of Attending Religious Instruction.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Religious instruction can be allowed in an institute recognized by the State. However, it shall be **allowed on a voluntary basis and nobody can be forced to participate** in the religious activities or instructions in that institute. If a person is minor, religious instruction cannot be allowed without the **permission of his/ her guardian.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Religious instruction can be allowed in an institute receiving aid from the State. However, it shall be allowed **on a voluntary basis and nobody can be forced to participate** in the religious activities or instructions in that institute. If a person is minor, religious instruction cannot be allowed without the permission of his/ her guardian.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Religious instruction is **not prohibited in the institute which is administered by the State but has been established under any endowment or trust** which requires that religious instruction shall be imparted in such institution.

Statement 4 is correct: There is **absolute prohibition in imparting religious instruction** in the institutes wholly maintained out of the State Funds. Hence, the given statement is correct.

35. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 32 provides for the 'Right to the Constitutional Remedies' for the enforcement of fundamental rights. Thus, an aggrieved citizen for violation of his Fundamental Rights can approach Supreme Court of India. Dr. Ambedkar has called this Article as the 'heart and soul' of the Indian Constitution.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **Constitution of India neither defines nor mentions the term 'basic structure'.** It is a judicial innovation and first time used in India in the Keshavananda Bharti Case (1973). **In Delhi Judicial Services Association**

Case (1991) and various other judgments, Supreme Court has held judicial review under Article 32 as a basic structure of the Indian constitution. **Hence, Article 32 forms the basic structure, but it is not declared in the Constitution itself.**

Statement 2 incorrect: The Article does not empower Supreme Court with the exclusive jurisdiction over issuing writs. As per this Article, **Parliament can empower any other Courts to issue directions, orders and writs of all kinds.** However, the Parliament cannot take away the writ jurisdiction from the Supreme Court.

Statement 3 correct: Writ jurisdiction in India has been **borrowed from the English Common Law.** They are called as **'prerogative writs' in England.** The Courts use these writs under extraordinary circumstances to uphold the rights and liberties of the people.

Statement 4 is incorrect: As per Article 32, the right to move Supreme Court cannot be suspended unless otherwise stated in the Constitution. **Article 359 states that President can suspend the right to move any courts (including the Supreme Court) for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights during National Emergency.** Hence, rights under Article 32 are not absolute and can be suspended.

36. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 13 of the Indian Constitution states that **all laws that are inconsistent with or in derogation of any of the fundamental rights** shall be declared void by the judiciary. Article 13 provides for the doctrine of judicial review.

Statement 1 is correct: It is true that **laws enacted by both the Parliament and State legislative assembly** can be struck down by the **High court** if it violates fundamental rights. **Article 226** of the Indian constitution provides the **high court** and **Article 32** provides the **supreme court** - the power of judicial review.

Statement 2 is correct: Article 13 uses wider definition of laws, **as per article 13 constitutional amendment act too is a law.** Thus, any **constitutional amendment act which contravenes** the provisions of fundamental rights can be **struck down by the Supreme court and High court.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: As per Article 13, a law includes a custom or social practises having the force of law. **The Supreme Court can ban those social practices which contravenes fundamental rights.** For instance, the **Supreme Court intervened in the Sabarimala** issue and removed the restrictions posed on the entry of women into a temple because such religious practice violated the fundamental **right of women.**

Statement 4 is incorrect: Executive actions by civil servants which violate fundamental rights **can be struck down by the Supreme Court.** As per Article 13, a law includes delegated legislation such as order, bye law, rules and regulations.

37. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 16 of the Constitution of India provides for equality of opportunity in matters of public employment.

Statement-I is incorrect. The right to seek reservation in public employment is not a fundamental right of citizens in India. The Supreme Court in **Mukesh Kumar v. State of Uttarakhand** (2020) held that reservation is not a fundamental right but only an enabling provision. It stated that the Government has the discretion to provide reservations and the individuals cannot seek reservation as a matter of right.

Statement-II is correct. Article 16(4) allows the State to make any provision for the reservation of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizens which, in the opinion of the State, is not adequately represented in the services under the State. Further, Article 16(4A) was introduced by the **77th amendment act** by which the State can provide reservation to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes in promotion, if it believes that they are underrepresented in the state services.

Thus, **Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.**

38. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Article 32 confers the **right to remedies for the enforcement of the fundamental rights** of an aggrieved. Dr Ambedkar called Article 32 as the most important article of the Constitution and he observed that without this Article, the constitution would be a nullity. He described it as the very soul of the Constitution and the very heart of it as without Article 32 the entire fundamental rights of citizens would be meaningless.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **origin of writs** in India goes back to the **Regulating Act, 1773** under which the Supreme Court was established at Calcutta. The writ jurisdiction of these courts was limited to their original civil jurisdiction which they enjoyed under Section 45 of the Specific Relief Act, 1877.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Writ jurisdictions exercised by the Supreme Court **under article 32** and by the high courts under article 226, for the enforcement of fundamental rights **are mandatory and not discretionary.** But the writ jurisdiction of high courts for 'any other purpose' is discretionary

Statement 3 is correct: There is **no time-frame provided under our Constitution** within which a Writ Petition ought to be filed in the High Court from the arising of the cause of action.

39. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Fundamental Rights are enshrined in Part III of the Constitution from Articles 12 to 35. They are not absolute but qualified. The state can impose reasonable restrictions on them.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Fundamental rights **can be amended by the Parliament by a constitutional amendment** but only if the amendment does not alter the basic structure of the Constitution. The Fundamental Rights **prevent** the establishment of an **authoritarian and despotic rule** in the country, and protect the liberties and freedoms of the people against the invasion by the State. They operate as **limitations**

on the tyranny of the executive and arbitrary laws of the legislature.

Statements 2 is incorrect: The Fundamental Rights are guaranteed by the Constitution to all persons without any discrimination. They uphold the equality of all individuals, the dignity of the individual, the larger public interest and unity of the nation.

The Fundamental Rights are meant for promoting the ideal of political democracy and not limiting it.

Statements 3 is correct: The Fundamental Rights are guaranteed and protected by the Constitution of India, which is the fundamental law of the land. They are 'fundamental' also in the sense that they are most essential for the all-round development of the individuals.

40. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The doctrine of essential religious practices refers to the rituals and customs that are fundamental to a religion and are considered necessary for its followers. Further, denying essential religious practices would violate Article 25.

Statement 1 is correct: The doctrine of essentiality also referred to as essential religious practices was introduced by the Supreme Court in the case of 'The Commissioner, Hindu Religious Endowments, Madras v. Sri Lakshmindra Thirtha Swamiar of Sri Shirur Mutt (1954)'. The **Shirur Mutt case** was the first case that interpreted Article 25 and established important principles regarding the constitutional protection of religious freedom in India. The Supreme Court ruled that the **term 'religion' in Article 25 of the Constitution includes all practices that are regarded as integral or essential parts of a religion.** This established the "essential religious practices" doctrine. The court held that religious institutions have the right to manage their own affairs in matters of religion, as long as they do not engage in activities contrary to public order, morality, or health.

Statement 2 is correct: The doctrine of essentiality is used to determine which religious practices are protected under Article 25 of the Constitution, which guarantees freedom of conscience and free profession, **practice**, and propagation of religion. **The Court applies this doctrine to assess whether a particular practice is essential to the religion in question and, therefore, deserves constitutional protection.**

41. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 12-35 in **Part III of the Constitution of India** provides for the fundamental rights of individuals in India.

Option 1 is correct. As per Article 15 of the Indian Constitution - Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. This **right is available against the action of the state as well as private individuals.**

Option 2 is correct. Abolition of Untouchability is present in **Article 17** of the Constitution of India. The right under Article 17 is not limited to actions by the state, but also **applies to actions of private individuals.** The state has a constitutional obligation to take necessary action to ensure that this right is not violated, even when the violation is committed by a private person.

Option 3 is correct. All citizens shall have the right to freedom of speech and expression is present in **Article 19(1)(a)** of the Constitution of India. In **Kaushal Kishore v. State of Uttar Pradesh, the Supreme Court stated that this fundamental right can be enforced against private individuals and entities as well.**

Option 4 is correct. Protection of right to life and personal liberty is present in Article 21 of the Constitution of India. In **Kaushal Kishore v. State of Uttar Pradesh,** the Supreme Court has expanded the scope of **Article 21,** holding that fundamental rights, including those under Articles 19 and 21, are not limited to enforcement against the state but can also be enforced against private individuals and entities.

Option 5 is correct. Prohibition of traffic in human beings is present in Article 23 of the Constitution of India. **It protects individuals against the State as well as private citizens.** This article imposes a positive obligation on the State to abolish immoral practices of exploitation like human trafficking and other forms of forced labour.

42. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Bharat Ratna is India's highest civilian award, instituted in 1954.

Statement 1 is correct. The recommendations for Bharat Ratna are made by the Prime Minister himself to the President. No formal recommendations for this are necessary.

Statement 2 is incorrect. In Balaji Raghavan v. Union of India, the Supreme court held that National awards (Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhusan, Padma Shri) aren't titles under clause 1 of Article 18. Thus titles like "Bharat Ratna," "Padma Vibhushan," and "Padma Shri" are not prohibited under Article 18 because they signify state recognition of exceptional work by citizens in various fields.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Earlier, the awards were given only in the fields of art, literature, science and public service. However, this was expanded in 2011 to include any field of human endeavours.

The first Bharat Ratna was awarded to Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, Sir C.V. Raman, and Chakravarti Rajagopalachari in 1954.

43. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement I and II are correct: In India, it is the legally enforceable duty of the State to ensure that every child within the specified age group receives compulsory education. The 86th Amendment Act of 2002 with the aim of providing free and compulsory education to all children in the specified age group inserted Article 21 A. **Article 21 A states that The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine.**

Statement II explains Statement I: The State has a duty to ensure that every child within the specified age group receives compulsory education because it is a fundamental right under Article 21 A which is contained in the Part III of the Constitution.

Statement III is correct but is not the correct explanation of statement 1: At the time of independence in 1947, India's literacy rate was just around 12%, with a significant portion of the population lacking access to education. But the provision of free and compulsory education under article 21A of Constitution of India was added in 2002 by 86th Constitutional Amendment Act.

To improve the literacy rate in the country Article 45 and Article 39(f), had a provision for state funded education as well as equitable and accessible education. This was more of a directive and was not legally enforceable. Thus though the statement is correct but does not explain Statement I.

Important Tips

The **Tapas Majumdar Committee established in 1999 proposed the incorporation of Article 21A into the Constitution.** Article 21-A mandates the state to **provide free and compulsory education to all children between six and fourteen years of age**. This made it legally enforceable on the state to ensure that every child within the specified age group receives compulsory education.

44. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 23 prohibits **traffic in human beings, forced labour** and other similar forms of forced labour. Any contravention of this provision shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law. This right is **available to both citizens and non-citizens**. It protects the **individual not only against the State but also against private persons**. The expression **'traffic in human beings'** include (a) selling and buying of men, women and children like goods; (b) immoral traffic in women and children, **including prostitution**; (c) devadasis; and (d) slavery. To punish these acts, the Parliament has made the **Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956.**

45. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Horizontal application of Fundamental Rights refers to the **extension of certain rights to apply even against private or non-state actors**. While most Fundamental Rights are traditionally enforceable **vertically** (i.e., against the State), some provisions such as **Article 15(2)** (prohibiting discrimination in access to public spaces) and jurisprudence emerging from cases like **Vishaka v. State of Rajasthan (1997)** have enabled courts to apply constitutional rights **horizontally** in cases involving private employers, individuals, or entities. This ensures that **constitutional values such as equality, dignity, and non-discrimination** are protected even in private spheres.

46. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 26 of the constitution of India states Freedom to manage religious affairs. It says-

Subject to **public order, morality and health**, every religious denomination or any section thereof shall have the right –

a) to establish and maintain institutions for religious and charitable purposes;

b) to manage its own affairs in matters of religion;

c) to own and acquire movable and immovable property; and

d) to administer such property in accordance with law.

Options 1, 2 and 4 are correct:Public order, health and morality are explicitly mentioned as a restriction under Article 26.The Article specifically mentions **public order, health, and morality as reasonable restrictions.**

Options 3 and 5 are incorrect: While sovereignty and integrity as well as decency are valid grounds for restricting freedom of speech under Article 19, they are **not listed under Article 26.**

47. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Right to Freedom: Articles 19-22 in the Constitution. It includes

a) Protection of 6 rights regarding freedom of (i) speech and expression, (ii) assembly, (iii) association, (iv) movement, (v) residence and (vi) profession (Article 19)

b) Protection in respect of conviction for offences (Article 20)

c) Protection of life and personal liberty (Article 21)

d) **Right to Education (Article 21A)**

e) Protection against arrest and detention in certain cases (Article 22)

The **Right to Education is enshrined under Article 21A of the Constitution.** It was introduced by the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002, making free and compulsory education a fundamental right for children aged 6 to 14 years.

Important Tips

Right against Exploitation: Articles 23 and 24 in the Constitution deal with the Right against Exploitation. They prohibit human trafficking, forced labor, and child labor under hazardous conditions.

Cultural and Educational Rights: Articles 29 and 30 address Cultural and Educational Rights, aimed at preserving the cultural identity of minorities and granting them the right to establish and administer educational institutions.

Right to Equality: Articles 14 to 18 enshrine the Right to Equality, which guarantees equality before the law, prohibits discrimination, and abolishes untouchability and titles.

48. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. The Ninth Schedule was **added by the Constitution (First Amendment) Act, 1951. It was inserted to protect laws related to agrarian and land reforms from judicial review.** It contains a list of central and state laws which

cannot be challenged in courts. The amendment added 13 laws to the Schedule. Subsequent amendments in various years have taken the number of protected laws to 284 currently.

Statement 2 is correct. Article 31B of the Constitution provides that the **acts and regulations included in the Ninth Schedule cannot be challenged and invalidated on the ground of contravention of any of the Fundamental Rights.** Both Article 31B and the Ninth Schedule were added by the 1st Constitutional Amendment Act of 1951 to protect certain laws from scrutiny under the judicial review.

Statement 3 is correct. In a significant judgement **delivered in I.R. Coelho case (2007),** the Supreme Court ruled that **there could not be any blanket immunity from judicial review of laws included in the Ninth Schedule.** The court held that judicial review is a 'basic feature' of the constitution, and it could not be taken away by putting a law under the Ninth Schedule. The Court ruled that the **laws placed under Ninth Schedule after April 24, 1973, shall be open to challenge in court if they violated fundamental rights** guaranteed under Article 14, 19 and 21 of the Constitution or the basic feature of the Constitution.

49. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option 1 is correct: The Supreme Court has upheld the constitutional validity of the National Awards– Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri in **Balaji Raghavan case, 1996. It ruled that these awards do not amount to 'titles' within the meaning of Article 18.** Therefore, they are not violative of Article 18 as the theory of equality does not mandate that merit should not be recognised. However, it also ruled that **they should not be used as suffixes or prefixes to the names of awardees.** Otherwise, they should forfeit the awards.

Option 4 and 5 are correct: Article 18 of the Constitution of India provides for abolition of titles. Hereditary titles of nobility like **Maharaja**, Raj Bahadur, Rai Bahadur, Rai Saheb, Dewan Bahadur, **Nawab** etc, which were conferred by colonial States are banned by Article 18 as it goes against principle of social equality.

Option 2 and 3 are incorrect: Supreme court upheld that theory of equality does not mandate that merit should not be recognised. Hence provision under **Article 18 differentiates between hereditary titles of nobility and military or academic distinction. So, the title Professor do not amount to violation of Article 18.**

Similarly, in the **Indira Jaisigh Case 2017,** a complaint was lodged in this matter questioning the usage of the term **'senior advocate'** before the names of the advocates. The Supreme Court ruled that **this is not the title, but rather a demarcation**, and therefore does not violate Article 18 of the Indian Constitution.

50. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Right to Freedom of Religion is enshrined in Articles 25 to 28 of the Indian Constitution.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 25 allows the **government to impose reasonable restrictions on religious practices in the interest of public order, morality, health,** or to protect other Fundamental Rights. For example, practices that harm public safety or violate human rights (like untouchability or forced conversions) can be restricted.

Statement 2 is correct: Article 25 explicitly **provides individuals the right to propagate their religion,** which means spreading one's religious beliefs peacefully.

Statement 3 is correct: Article 27 prohibits the **use of tax revenue for funding religious activities** or institutions, ensuring the state remains secular. This provision prohibits only levy of a tax and not a fee.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Article 28 (1) says "No religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution wholly maintained out of State funds."

At the same time Article 28 (2) says clause 1 will not apply to an educational institution which is administered by the State but has been established under any endowment or trust which requires that religious instruction shall be imparted in such institution.

Thus, it would be incorrect to say that religious instruction is prohibited in any educational institutions administered by the State.

51. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Supreme Court of India (under Article 32) and the high courts (under Article 226) can issue certain writs for the enforcement of fundamental rights of the citizens.

Row 1 is incorrect. The writ of Mandamus is issued when the court finds that a particular office holder is not doing legal duty and thereby is infringing on the right of an individual. It is **a command issued by the court to a public official asking him/her to perform his/her official duties.** It can also be issued against any public body, a corporation, an inferior court, a tribunal or government.

The writ of mandamus cannot be issued against a private individual.

Row 2 is correct. The writ of Prohibition is issued by a higher court (High Court or Supreme Court) when a lower court has considered a case going beyond its jurisdiction. It is issued by a higher court to a lower court or tribunal to prevent the latter from exceeding its jurisdiction that it does not possess.

The writ of prohibition **can be issued only against judicial and quasi-judicial authorities.** It is not available against administrative authorities, legislative bodies, and private individuals or bodies.

Row 3 is incorrect. If the court finds that a person is holding office but is not entitled to hold that office, it issues the **writ of quo warranto** and restricts that person from acting as an office holder.

It is issued by the court to enquire into the legality of claim of a person to a public office. Hence, it **prevents illegal usurpation of public office by a person.**

Previously, the writ of certiorari could be issued only against judicial and quasi-judicial authorities and not against administrative authorities. However, in 1991, **the Supreme Court ruled that the certiorari can be issued even against administrative authorities affecting rights of individuals.**

The writ of Certiorari is issued by a higher court to a lower court or tribunal either to transfer a case pending with the latter to itself or to squash the order of the latter in a case.

52. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement-I is incorrect: Right to property is currently a **legal right** which is **available to any person**. This includes both citizens as well as non-citizens. **Article 300A** provides that "no person shall be deprived of his property save by authority of law". Currently a legal right, but in **original constitution, The Right to 'acquire, possess and maintain' property was included as the fundamental right** under Part III.

The Supreme Court has observed that the right to property as enshrined under Article 300A of the Constitution extends to persons who are not citizens of India. As per Supreme Court judgement "The expression person in Article 300-A covers not only a legal or juristic person but also a person who is not a citizen of India."

Statement-II is correct: In 1973, the Supreme Court gave a decision that the **Right to Property was not part of the basic structure** of the Constitution and therefore, Parliament had the power to abridge this right by an amendment. In 1978, the **44th Amendment to the Constitution removed the right to property from the list of Fundamental Rights and converted it into a legal right under Article 300 A** in Part XII. It provides that no person shall be deprived of his property save by authority of law.

53. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Marxism and Liberalism differ fundamentally in their views on the state. Marxism advocates for a stateless and classless society, particularly after the "withering away" of the state in the ultimate stage of communism.

However, **Liberalism does not advocate for a stateless society.** Instead, it **supports a limited role of the state,** which is essential for protecting individual rights, property, and maintaining order.

Statement 2 is correct: Liberalism places a strong emphasis on the right to private property as a fundamental aspect of individual freedom and economic efficiency. **Marxism,** on the other hand, **calls for the abolition of private property** in the means of production, advocating instead for collective or communal ownership to eliminate class distinctions and exploitation.

Statement 3 is correct: Liberalism supports market-based economies where free markets operate with minimal government intervention, allowing supply and demand to dictate production and pricing. **Marxism**, however, **advocates for common ownership of resources and the means of production,** aiming to distribute wealth and resources more equally among the people and eliminate the capitalist market system.

54. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Affirmative action involves policies and practices that **give preferential treatment to groups that have been historically marginalized or discriminated against**. This **"positive discrimination"** aims to level the playing field by providing these groups with opportunities that they might not otherwise have due to historical and systemic inequalities. This could **include measures in education, employment, politics, health and other areas** to ensure they have equal access and opportunities.

Statement 2 is correct: Formal equality means treating everyone the same under the law, but this does not take into account the different starting points people have to achieve equality. **Substantive equality** recognizes that some groups may need more help to achieve the same level of opportunity as others due to past and ongoing disadvantages. **Affirmative action is based on this principle**, aiming to achieve a more equitable outcome by addressing these imbalances.

Statement 3 is correct: Affirmative action can take many forms, including targeted investments in communities that have been historically underfunded or neglected. This could involve preferential spending on education, healthcare, housing, and other public services targeted towards marginalized groups.

55. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

MGNREGA is providing employment to at least one member of the eligible household for a minimum period of 100 days in a year. Hence, Assertion (A) is correct.

Whereas, Right to employment is not enumerated in Part III of the Constitution. It is given in Part IV of the Constitution. Article 41 of the Indian Constitution directs the state to secure the right to work, education and public assistance in certain cases such as unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement. Hence, correct answer is: (A) is true, but (R) is false.

Important Tips

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA):

- The Indian Parliament passed NREGA in August 2005. It came into force on February 2, 2006. On 2nd October 2009, the act NREGA was renamed MGNREGA.
- It is a poverty alleviation programme of the Government of India, which provides the legal Right to Work.
- It aims to enhance livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

56. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Creamy layer is a category under Other Backward Classes category. They do not get the benefit of the OBC reservation. Creamy layer is the section of people in the Other Backward Classes who are considered socially advanced.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The 'creamy layer' concept was introduced in the Supreme Court's Indra Sawhney judgment in 1992. The court found it necessary to identify sections of backward classes who were already "highly advanced socially as well as economically and educationally". This was called creamy layer. The judgment directed the State governments to identify the 'creamy layer' and exclude them from the purview of reservation. The Constitution does not define the term creamy layer.

Statement 3 is correct. The Supreme court while quashing a Haryana government notification of August 17, 2016 held that economic criterion cannot be the sole basis for deciding the creamy layer from among the OBCs.

57. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 14 of the Constitution of India talks about Equality before Law and Equal Protection of Laws. This article guarantees the rule of law in India, and the Supreme Court has declared the rule of law as part of the basic structure.

Statement I is incorrect: The Supreme Court has ruled that **Article 14** of the Indian Constitution does **not apply when the law treats unequal persons differently** who may require differential treatment. Article 14 allows the law to group people, things, or actions if this grouping is based on a clear and important difference and has a good reason.

Statement-II is correct: Article 14 says that the State shall not deny to any person **equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws** within the territory of India. While the concept of **'equality before law' is of British origin**, the concept of '**equal protection of laws**' is of American origin.

Important Tips

Equality before law:

- The idea of equality before the law means three things,

1. Firstly, **no one should have special privileges,**
2. Secondly, the **equal subjection of all persons to the ordinary law** of the land administered by ordinary law courts, and
3. Thirdly, **no person is above the law.**

Equal protection of law:

- The principle of equal protection of the law is enshrined in Article 14 of the Indian Constitution and seeks to prevent any form of discrimination by the government or its agencies.
- It emphasizes that individuals in similar circumstances must be treated equally under the law and should receive the same legal rights and protections.

58. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 1966. As one of two international treaties that make the **'International Bill of Human Rights' (along with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights),** the **ICESCR** provides the legal framework to protect and preserve the most basic economic, social and cultural rights of people across the globe.

Statement 1 is correct: It is true that **Article 9 of** the ICESCR recognizes the **right of everyone to social security, including social insurance.**

Statement 2 is correct: Article 7 of the ICESCR establishes the principle of **fair wages and equal remuneration** for work of equal value without any form of discrimination. This includes the guarantee of working conditions for **women** that are not inferior to those enjoyed by men, with a specific emphasis on **equal pay for equal work.**

Statement 3 is correct: Article 12 of the ICESCR recognizes right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. The ICESCR asked all states to improve all aspects of their environmental and industrial hygiene; and to create conditions which would ensure all medical services and medical attention in the event of sickness.

Statement 4 is correct: Article 8 of the ICESCR guarantees the right for all to establish and join trade unions of their preference to advance and safeguard their economic and social concerns. Additionally, **the article acknowledges the right to strike,** provided that it complies with the laws of the respective nation.

59. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Constitutional and legal recognition of rights holds government and public authorities accountable. When rights are enshrined in the constitution or legal system, it ensures that public officials and institutions can be held responsible for their actions, particularly if they infringe upon individuals' rights.

Statement-I is correct: In India, **Article 32** provides **every citizen the right to approach the Supreme court directly** in case of violation of their fundamental rights. This provision comes from the realisation that constitutional recognition of rights is crucial for the protection of individuals' fundamental liberties. **Dr B.R. Ambedkar held Article 32 as the soul of the Constitution,** because without this article the Fundamental Rights guaranteed by the Constitution would have no meaning.

Statement-II is correct: Constitutional recognition ensures that **individual** rights and freedoms are **legally binding and enforceable.** Without such recognition, these rights would be **vulnerable to violation,** and individuals might not have the means to defend them. Legal recognition provides a strong shield against potential abuses. Hence this **statement explains why every citizen of India has the right to approach**

the Supreme Court directly in case of violation of their fundamental rights.

60. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. Right to Protest is a constitutional right enshrined in Article 19(1) (a), Article 19(1) (b) and Article 19(1) (c) of the Indian Constitution. Supreme Court in its recent order in the farm laws protest in Delhi also stated that farmers have a constitutional right to continue with their protest.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Like other fundamental rights, right to protest is also not absolute and also subject to reasonable restrictions mentioned under Article 19(2) and 19(3) on the following grounds:

1. In the interests of the sovereignty & integrity of India,
2. The security of the State,
3. Friendly relations with foreign States,
4. Violation of Public order,
5. Decency or morality or in relation to Contempt of court, defamation or incitement of an offence

The grounds of restrictions based on Violation of public order can be reasonable only when there is evidence that protesters will incite lawless or disorderly acts and that such acts are likely to occur.

Statement 3 is correct. In the Shaheen Bagh judgement, Supreme Court (SC) upheld the right to peaceful protest against the law but also cleared that public ways and public spaces cannot be occupied and that too indefinitely.

61. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Supreme Court, in the Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala case, 1973, ruled that the right to property was not a fundamental part of the Constitution's basic structure. However, the Court also held that Parliament could not amend the Constitution in a way that would destroy its basic structure. This meant that the right to property could still be amended, but only to a limited extent.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 eliminated the right to property as a Fundamental Right by repealing Article 19(1)(f) and Article 31 from Part III. Instead, it introduced a new Article 300A in Part XII, categorizing it as a constitutional or legal right, not a fundamental right.

Statement 3 is correct: The right to property, now a legal right, can be altered through regular parliamentary laws, without requiring a constitutional amendment under article 368. It safeguards private property from executive actions but not legislative actions. If violated, an individual can't directly approach the Supreme Court under Article 32 but can seek redress through the High Court under Article 226. There's no guaranteed right to compensation for private property acquisition or requisition by the state.

62. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The natural justice mainly focuses on the following:

- An opportunity for fair hearing
- One cannot be a judge in his own cause
- The decision-making authority must act unbiased

63. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Judicial review is the power of the Supreme Court and the High Courts to examine the constitutionality of legislative enactments and executive orders of both the Central and the States. On examination, if they are found to be violative of the Constitution (ultra-vires), they can be declared as illegal and void.

Statement I is correct. Executive as well as legislative actions can be declared invalid by the judiciary if these violate the fundamental rights or restrict them in an unreasonable manner. Judiciary has the powers and responsibility to protect the fundamental rights from violations by actions of both the executive and the legislature. The courts exercise this power under article 32 and 226 of the Constitution.

Article 32 of the Constitution guarantees the Right to constitutional remedies. This right gives a citizen the right to approach the Supreme Court to get any of the fundamental rights restored in case of their violation. The Supreme Court and the High Courts (under article 226) can issue orders and give directives to the government for the enforcement of fundamental rights

Statement II is incorrect. As per Article 21 of Indian Constitution 'No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.'

In the **Gopalan case** (1950), the Supreme Court has held that the protection under **Article 21 is available only against arbitrary executive action and not from arbitrary legislative action.** This is because of the expression 'procedure established by law' in Article 21, which is different from the expression 'due process of law' contained in the American Constitution.

However, **in Maneka Gandhi v/s Union of India (1978),** the **Supreme Court overturned the Gopalan case decision,** significantly broadening the scope of Article 21. The court introduced the concept that the "procedure established by law" must not be arbitrary, unfair, or unreasonable. Essentially, **it incorporated elements of "due process of law" from American jurisprudence.** The court emphasized that Article 21 **protects not just against arbitrary executive action but also against arbitrary legislative action.**

Thus, in Maneka Gandhi Case 1978, due process of law doctrine was introduced and not procedure established by law.

64. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 12 to 35 contained in Part III of the Constitution deal with Fundamental Rights. It guarantees six broad categories of Fundamental Rights to the all the citizens of India which are justiciable in nature.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The 'doctrine of Waiver' means that a person who is receiving a right or a privilege can waive that right according to his will. Once the right is waived by the individual then they cannot claim it back. **In Behram Khurshed Pesikaka vs The State of Bombay case, 1954 it was decided by the Supreme Court that the rights which are given in part III of the Indian constitution cannot be waived by an individual.**

Statement 2 is correct: The Fundamental Rights are so important that the Constitution itself ensures that they are not violated by the State. It prohibits government from acting against the rights of the individuals and ensures a remedy in case there is violation of these rights. **The provisions under Article 32 enable the individual to move to courts to enforce the fundamental rights even when government fails to take action, for the protection of these fundamental rights.** Air pollution in Delhi, violates Article. 21, which confers an individual right to have a clean environment. It could be challenged via Article 32. A petition might urge the Supreme Court to order stricter government action for cleaner air.

65. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 14 says that the State shall not deny to any person **equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws** within the territory of India. This provision confers rights on all persons whether citizens or foreigners.

Statement 1 is correct. Under Article 14 of the Indian Constitution, **"equality before the law" means that both a celebrity and a common man are subject to the same punishment for committing a heinous crime,** ensuring no discrimination based on status. However, **"equal protection of the law" allows for relief to juvenile over adults in such crimes,** recognizing differences in maturity and culpability. This principle acknowledges that the law can treat individuals differently based on their age and circumstances.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Equality before the law is in Indian Constitution and political system has been borrowed from **British tradition,** as it is rooted in the principle of the **rule of law** developed by A.V. Dicey. **Equal Protection of Laws** is borrowed from the **American Constitution,** specifically the **14th Amendment,** which guarantees equal protection to all persons within the United States' jurisdiction.

66. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 15 states that the State **shall not discriminate against any citizen** on the grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. The key words in this provision are 'discrimination' and 'exclusively'. The term 'discrimination' means 'to make an adverse distinction with regard to' or 'to make an unfavorable distinction with regard to others'. The use of the term 'exclusively' implies that discrimination on other grounds is permitted.

The State may, however, make the following **four exceptions** to this general rule of non-discrimination:

1. The state may make any **special provision for women and children. For** instance, reserving seats in local government for women or providing free education to children.
2. The state may make any **special provision for the advancement of socially and educationally disadvantaged citizens,** as well as for **scheduled castes and tribes.** For instance, seat reservations or fee reductions in public educational institutions.
3. The state is empowered to make special provisions for the advancement of socially and educationally backward classes of citizens, as well as scheduled castes and tribes, with regard to their admission to educational institutions, including private educational institutions, whether aided or unaided by the state, except minority educational institutions.
4. The state has the authority to make **special provisions for the advancement of economically disadvantaged citizens.**

67. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

According to the Article 20 (3) of the Indian Constitution, "No person accused of any offence shall be compelled to be a witness against himself." This indicates that a person has the right to not be compelled to act as a witness against themselves.

Important Tips

Some points about Article 20 of the Indian Constitution:

- It safeguards against arbitrary and excessive punishment for accused persons, including citizens, foreigners, and legal entities such as companies or corporations.
- No ex-post-facto law: It ensures that a person cannot be convicted of any offence except for the violation of a law in force at the time of committing the act.
- No double jeopardy: No person can be prosecuted and punished for the same offence more than once.
- No self-incrimination: No person accused of any offence can be compelled to be a witness against themselves.
- An ex-post-facto law is one that imposes penalties retrospectively, which means it applies to acts that were committed before the law was enacted or increases the penalties for such acts.
- Article 20 prohibits the enactment of ex-post-facto criminal laws, but this limitation does not apply to civil laws or tax laws. Civil liability or taxes can be imposed retrospectively.

68. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India guarantees to all citizens the Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression. It implies that every citizen has the right to express his views, opinions, belief and convictions freely by word of mouth, writing, printing, picturing or in any other manner. Although, the Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression **is not absolute. Article 19(2)** allows the State to impose reasonable restriction on the exercise of this Right in the interests of the:

- Sovereignty and integrity of India
- Security of the State
- Friendly relations with Foreign States
- **Option 1 is correct:** Public order
- **Option 4 is correct:** Decency or morality
- Contempt of court
- Defamation
- **Option 3 is correct:** Incitement to an offence.

Options 2 and 5 are incorrect: Protection of Scheduled Tribes and public health are not the grounds mentioned in the Constitution of India under Article 19(2) for imposing reasonable restrictions on the exercise of the Fundamental Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression.

69. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 29 of the Constitution is designed to protect the cultural and educational rights of any section of citizens, not just minorities.

- The primary aim of this article is to safeguard the distinct language, script, and culture of any group residing in India. It **includes both religious and linguistic minorities, as well as other sections of citizens.**
- The phrase "any section of citizens" ensures that the **protection is not exclusive to minorities,** and it **applies to both minority and majority groups**.
- This was clarified in the **TMA Pai Case (2002),** where the Supreme Court interpreted that the protection extends to all citizens, not just minorities.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 30 specifically refers to the rights of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions. It states that **all minorities, whether based on religion or language,** shall have the **right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.** This provision is aimed at preserving the rights and culture of minorities **and does not extend these rights to the majority community.**

Statement 3 is correct: Article 30 (1) of the Indian Constitution says "All minorities, whether based on religion or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice." **The Constitution of India recognizes two types of minorities: religious minorities and linguistic minorities.** This recognition is important for protecting their cultural and educational rights under Articles 29 and 30. However, it is important to note that **the word "minority" is nowhere explicitly defined in the Constitution.**

70. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. The term **"martial law" is not explicitly defined** in the Indian Constitution or any specific law. However, it refers to 'military rule' imposed under abnormal circumstances to restore order. It is applied as a temporary measure to restore public order and internal stability.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Supreme Court has held that the declaration of **martial law** does **not ipso facto** result in the **suspension of the writ of habeas corpus.** This means that the Fundamental right to approach the courts for the enforcement of personal liberty is not automatically suspended when the martial law is imposed.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The concept of martial law has been borrowed in India from the English common law not from the 'Weimar Constitution of Germany.

71. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: Right to constitutional remedies, **gives a citizen the right to move the Supreme Court or the High Court directly in case of violation of any fundamental rights.** In case of violation, the aggrieved person can directly move the Supreme Court under Article 32 for its enforcement. He can move the High Court under Article 226.

Option b is correct: Right to Freedom (Article 19-22) includes the right to freedom of speech and expression, the right to form associations, **the right to move freely and reside in any part of the country**, and the right to practise any profession, occupation or business. If a state Government prohibited labourers from other states to move into the state, it is **potentially violating the right of citizens to move freely, reside and settle in any part of the country.** Moreover, a constitution bench of the Supreme Court has said that the fundamental rights in Article 19 and 21 of the constitution are enforceable even against other persons, and not just the state and its instruments. Hence among the given options, this is the most appropriate answer.

Option c is incorrect: Right against Exploitation (Article 23&24) deals with the prohibition of trafficking, forced labour, and children working under 14 years of age.

Option d is incorrect: Cultural and Educational Rights (Article 29&30) deals primarily with the religious and linguistic rights of minorities (religious & linguistic). It vests them with the right to set up their own educational institutions in order to preserve and develop their own culture.

72. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 13 of the Constitution of India deals with laws that are inconsistent with or in derogation of fundamental rights. Article 13 also provides remedies if fundamental rights are violated. Article 13 gives courts the power and duty to declare a law void if it is inconsistent with a fundamental right.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 13 of the Constitution of India **includes ordinances** in its **definition** of **'law'.** The **President of India** has the **power to issue ordinances** in **urgent situations** when either of the two Houses of **Parliament is not in session. Ordinances** have the **same force** and **effect** as an **act** of Parliament. However, they **must be ratified by Parliament within six weeks of its reassembly.**

Statement 2 is correct: Article 13 of the Indian Constitution **equates customary law with** other **branches of civil law.** It

establishes that customs, once **verified, attain the status of law** within this framework.

Statement 3 is correct: Executive legislation in the **form of orders, notifications, rules,** and **regulations** issued by the government **can be considered laws under Article 13(3)(a).** The executive is the organ that implements the laws enacted by the legislature and enforces the will of the state. According to Article 13, administrative orders by the executive are included.

73. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The **Principles of Natural Justice** are fundamental legal principles that ensure fairness and procedural integrity in administrative and judicial proceedings. These principles serve as safeguards to protect the rights of individuals and uphold the rule of law.

Statement 1 is correct: Under Right to Notice, 'Notice' is the starting point of any hearing. Unless a person knows the formulation of subjects and issues involved in the case, he/she cannot defend himself/herself. It is not enough that the notice in a case be given, but it must be adequate also. The adequacy of notice is a relative term and must be decided with reference to each case. **Hence it violates the principle of natural justice."**

Statement 2 is correct: This also violates the principle of **audi alteram partem**, as it denies the individual the opportunity to **rebut or refute the evidence and arguments presented against them**.

Statement 3 is correct: This violates the principle of fair hearing, as it deprives the individual of the **right to legal representation**, which is essential for ensuring a fair and balanced adjudication process.

Statement 4 is correct: 'Pre-Decisional Hearing' is the standard norm of rule of audi alteram partem. But 'Post-Decisional Hearing' affords an opportunity to the aggrieved person to be heard. However, 'post-decisional hearing' should be an exception rather than being the rule itself. It is acceptable in the following situations:

1. where the original decision does not cause any prejudice or detriment to the person affected;
2. where there is urgent need for prompt action; and
3. where it is impracticable to afford pre-decisional hearing.

The idea of 'Post-Decisional Hearing' has been developed to maintain a balance between administrative efficiency and fairness to the individual. This harmonizing tool was developed by the Supreme Court in 'Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India'.

74. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Rule of Law is a principle that emphasizes the supremacy of law in a society. It suggests that all individuals, including those in positions of authority, are subject to the law and must adhere to it.

Option 1 is correct: Equality before law: This principle ensures that all individuals, regardless of their status or position, are **subject to the same laws and legal procedures.** It means that everyone is treated equally under the law, without discrimination or special privileges based on factors such as wealth, social status, or political influence.

Option 2 is correct: Equal protection of law: This principle guarantees that all individuals have the **right to be treated fairly and impartially by the legal system.** It ensures that the law applies equally to everyone, providing individuals with the same legal protections and opportunities for recourse against injustice or abuse.

Option 3 is correct: Absence of arbitrary power: This component emphasises the importance of **preventing the arbitrary exercise of power by government authorities** or individuals in positions of authority. The Rule of Law ensures government's actions must be guided by established legal principles and not by capricious or discriminatory decisions. This ensures predictability, fairness, and prevents the government from infringing upon individual rights based on whim.

75. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 16 deal with "Equality of opportunity in matters of public employment." According to the article "There shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State. Further it states that, no citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence or any of them, be ineligible for, or discriminated against in respect of, any employment or office under the State."

According to Article 16(3), the Parliament has the power to prescribe residence as a condition for certain employment in a state.

At present residence as a condition for employment exists only for Andhra **Pradesh and Telangana only.**

76. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 15 of the Indian Constitution prohibits discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth. It empowers the state to make special provisions for women, children, socially and educationally backward classes, and scheduled castes and tribes, promoting equality and social justice in Indian society.

Option 1 is correct: Article 15 empowers the state to make **special provisions for women,** ensuring their protection and equal opportunities in various spheres.

Option 2 is correct: Article 15 allows the state to make **special provisions for children,** emphasizing the importance of their welfare and access to education.

Option 3 is correct: Article 15 enables the state to make **special provisions for socially and educationally backward classes**, including measures such as reservation in educational institutions.

Option 4 is correct: Article 15 empowers the state to make **special provisions for economically weaker sections,** allowing for reservations in educational institutions and public employment (103rd constitutional amendment act).

Option 5 is correct: The Supreme Court in the National Legal Services Authority vs Union of India and others (2012). The expression 'sex' used in Articles 15 and 16 is not just limited to biological sex of male or female, but intended to include people who consider themselves to be neither male nor female. They are legally entitled and eligible to get the benefits of socially and educationally backward classes (SEBC) of citizens. **Hence Article 15 also covers transgenders.**

77. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

Option 1 is correct - Although the Word untouchability is not defined in Constitution, Article 17 Abolishes Untouchability an **Forbids its practice in any form without any Exception.**

Option 2 is incorrect - Article **19(2) provides for Various Reasonable Restrictions** Such as sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with Foreign States, public order, decency or morality or in relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence. Hence, it is a Qualified Fundamental Right

Option 3 is incorrect - Article 21 provides for Right to Life and Personal Liberty but is not an absolute right as Article 21 states that life and personal li**berty may be taken away in** accordance with the procedure established by law.

Option 4 is incorrect - Article 15 provides that no citizen shall be discriminated on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. **However, Certain provisions can be made for the women, children, citizens** from any socially or educationally backward class for their upliftment (such as reservation and access to free education).

78. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

All citizens shall have the right to freedom of speech and expression as per **Article 19(1)(a)**. It implies that every citizen has the right to express his views, opinions, beliefs and convictions freely by word of mouth, writing, printing, picturing or any other manner.

But the state can impose reasonable restrictions on the exercise of freedom of speech on **expression in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with Foreign States, public order, decency or morality or in relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence.**

Sedition is not included in the constitution as a reasonable restriction.

79. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 20 of the Indian Constitution provides safeguards against arbitrary and disproportionate punishment for any accused. It is available to citizens as well as foreigners and legal entities like companies or corporations.

Statement-I is correct: The Supreme Court, in the case of 'Selvi & Ors vs State of Karnataka & Anr (2010)', determined that **lie detector or Narco Analysis tests can only be administered with the consent of the accused.** This aligns with **Article 20(3) of the Constitution, which prohibits forcing the accused to testify against themselves**. Additionally, any statements made by the accused during a narco test cannot be used as evidence in court. However, information obtained subsequently based on these statements can be admitted as evidence, such as revealing the location of a victim's body or a murder weapon.

Statement-II is correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement-I: Article 20(3) of the Constitution guarantees the right against self-incrimination, ensuring that **no one accused of a crime can be forced to testify against themselves**. This provision explains why **Narco Analysis tests cannot be conducted on an accused without their consent.** Article 20 also grants other rights to the accused, such as protection against **retrospective application of laws and double jeopardy.**

80. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In India, being a secular nation, every citizen has the freedom to practice any religion of their choice. The Constitution of India ensures this right not only to individuals but also to religious groups within the country.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 27 prohibits the levying of taxes for the promotion or maintenance of any particular religion or religious denomination. However, it does not prohibit the imposition of fees, which can be used for secular administrative purposes such as regulating religious institutions or providing special services to pilgrims.

Statement 2 is correct: Article 28 states that no religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution that is wholly maintained by State funds. Additionally, individuals attending such institutions cannot be compelled to participate in religious instruction or worship without their consent, or the consent of their guardian if they are a minor. However, this provision does not apply to educational institutions established under trusts or endowments that require religious instruction.

81. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 32 confers the right to remedies for the enforcement of the fundamental rights of an aggrieved citizen. Under this Article, the Supreme Court has power to issue directions or orders or writs for the enforcement of any of the fundamental rights. The writs issued may include **habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, certiorari and quo-warranto.**

Statement 1 is correct: Writs, originating from English law as 'prerogative writs,' were initially issued by the King as an exercise of royal authority. Later, high courts in England began issuing these writs to protect the rights and freedoms of British citizens. The framers of the Constitution, inspired by this, included such provision in the Indian Constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Constitution allows Parliament (not the Supreme Court) to empower any other court to issue

directions, orders and writs of all kinds. However, this can be done without prejudice to the above powers conferred on the Supreme Court. Any other court here does not include high courts because Article 226 has already conferred these powers on the high courts.

Statement 3 is correct: Habeas Corpus, meaning 'to have the body' in Latin, is a court order requiring a person who has detained another to bring the detainee before the court. This writ safeguards individual liberty against arbitrary detention and can be used against both public authorities and private individuals. **Habeas corpus is the writ that is available against both public authorities and private individuals.**

Statement 4 is correct: Mandamus, meaning 'we command' in Latin, is a court order commanding public officials to perform their official duties. It cannot be issued against private individuals but applies to public officials, corporations, or government bodies.

Statement 5 is incorrect: Quo-Warranto, meaning 'by what authority' in Latin, is a writ used to question the **legality of someone holding a public office**. It applies only to substantive public offices created by law or the Constitution, not ministerial or private positions. **It can be sought by any interested person, not necessarily by the aggrieved party.**

82. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Option a is correct: Article 23 of the Indian Constitution prohibits practices such as human trafficking and forced labor, known as begar, where individuals are compelled to work without pay. However, there's an **exception allowing the State to enforce compulsory services for public purposes like military or social service without providing any remuneration**. While imposing such service, the State is not permitted to make any discrimination on grounds only of religion, race, caste or class.

Option b is incorrect: Article 24 prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in any factory, mine or other hazardous activities like construction work or railway.

Option c is incorrect: Article 33 empowers Parliament to limit fundamental rights for members of armed, paramilitary, police, and intelligence forces to ensure the proper discharge of their

duties and the maintenance of discipline among them. The power to make laws under Article 33 is conferred **only on Parliament and not on State legislatures.** Any laws enacted under Article 33 cannot be challenged in court for violating fundamental rights.

Option d is incorrect: Article 35 lists certain fundamental rights on which only the Parliament (not state legislatures) has the authority to enact laws. This ensures consistency across India regarding these rights and penalties for violating them.

83. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 12 to 35 contained in **Part III** of the **Constitution** deal with **Fundamental Rights**. The **six fundamental rights** include – Right to equality, right to freedom, right against exploitation, right to freedom of religion, Cultural and educational rights and right to constitutional remedies.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Some of fundamental rights are negative in character. Fundamental rights place limitations on the authority of the State. Not all fundamental rights are negative, others are positive in nature, conferring certain privileges on the persons.

- A "**negative right**" restrains other persons or governments by limiting their actions toward or against the right holder. For example, **Article 15 prohibits discrimination** by the State based on religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth.
- A "**positive right**" essentially provides the right holder with a claim against another person or the state for some good, service, or treatment. For example, Article 21A, Right to elementary education.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Amending Fundamental Rights requires a **special process, not a simple majority**. The **Indian Constitution** is a **rigid document**, and **amending** Fundamental Rights is a **complex process**. Article 368 lays down the procedure for amending the Constitution.

It requires a **special majority**, which is the majority of each house of Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) and a majority of two-thirds of members of each house present and voting. This complex procedure makes it more **difficult to change Fundamental Rights** compared to ordinary laws, which require a simple majority.

84. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Americans adopted the Bill of Rights into their Constitution in the form of 10 amendments in 1791. While, Part III of the Indian Constitution contains the Fundamental Rights (Articles 12-35).

Statement 1 is incorrect: In the United States, no person's life and liberty can be deprived without following the due process of law, **in India on the other hand the life and personal liberty can be taken away only according to the procedure established by law. Only in case of depriving someone of Right to Life, the Supreme Court introduced the concept of due process of law in Maneka Gandhi Case.**

Statement 2 is correct: In the United States, the **First Amendment** guarantees **press freedom,** whereas in India, it is implicit in **Article 19(1)(a)**, which guarantees **freedom of speech and expression.**

Statement 3 is correct: The **right to property** was **abolished** as a fundamental right in India in 1978, but it is **still a fundamental right in the United States** and as per the bill of rights, no property can be taken away without just compensation.

85. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 368 in Part XX of the Constitution deals with the **power of parliament to amend the constitution** and its procedures.

It states that the Parliament may amend the Constitution by way of **addition, variation or repeal of any provision** in accordance with the procedure laid down for the purpose.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Supreme Court ruled first in **1951 in Shankari Prasad Case** that the power of the Parliament to amend the Constitution under Article 368 also includes the power to amend Fundamental Rights. The word 'law' in Article 13 includes only ordinary laws and not the constitutional amendment acts. However **later on it was ruled by the Supreme Court** in the **Kesavananda Bharati case (1973) that** the Parliament **cannot amend those provisions which form the 'basic structure' of the Constitution.** Thus, the **parliament does not have unlimited power to amend the constitution.**

Statement 2 is correct: In the **Golaknath v. State of Punjab,** the Supreme Court **held that parliamentary powers under Article 368 were not absolute and that the Parliament cannot abridge fundamental rights as they are included under Part III,** giving them a transcendental position beyond the scope of the Parliament's functioning. It further stated that any amendment taking away, abridging upon or in contravention to a fundamental right conferred by Part III is unconstitutional, thus subjecting the Parliament's powers to limitations and judicial review.

Statement 3 is correct: As per the **Minerva Mills Case, if amendments to fundamental rights are consistent with the basic structural theory, the Parliament may modify the Constitution without impairing that principle.** And ideally both Directive Principles and Fundamental Rights should have a harmonious construction. It **also held a law made under Article 31C would be protected only if it is made to implement directives in article 39b and 39 c and not any other DPSPs.** The extension to all DPSPs was declared as unconstitutional and void by the SC. Thus, in cases of a conflict between Fundamental Rights and any Directive Principles, the former would take precedence.

86. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 19 of the Indian Constitution deals with the Right to Freedom of Speech and expression.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Supreme Court described privacy and its importance in the landmark decision of **K.S. Puttaswamy v. Union of India in 2017** that - Right to Privacy is a fundamental and inalienable right and attaches to the person covering all information about that person and the choices that he/ she makes. **The right to privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21** and as a part of the freedoms guaranteed by Part III of the Constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As per the Gujrat High Court, **life and liberty under Article 19 and 21 of a foreigner cannot be invoked on his behalf when the individual himself is not in India.** Also, the rights under Article 19 are available only to the citizens of India and not to foreigners.

87. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

After the deletion of the Right to property from article 31, later on Article 31 A, B and C were added to the Indian Constitution. The **First Amendment Act, 1951 inserted Articles 31A and 31B** to the Constitution. **Article 31C was inserted in the Constitution by 25th Amendment Act, 1971.**

Statement 1 is correct: Article 31A saves five categories of laws from being challenged and invalidated on the ground of contravention of the fundamental rights conferred by Article 14 and Article 19. It includes Acquisition of estates and related rights by the State, Taking over the management of properties by the State, Amalgamation of corporations, Extinguishment or modification of rights of directors or shareholders of corporations and Extinguishment or modification of mining leases. It **also provides the guaranteed right to compensation in case of acquisition or requisition of the private property by the state.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 31B protects the acts and regulations included in the Ninth Schedule from being challenged and invalidated on the ground of contravention of any of the fundamental rights. **The scope of Article 31B is wider than Article 31A as it immunizes any law included in the Ninth Schedule from the Fundamental Rights (unlike article 31A that protects only five categories).** However, the Supreme Court in its judgement in the I.R. Coelho case (2007) ruled that even laws under the Ninth Schedule would be open to scrutiny if they violated Fundamental Rights or the basic structure of the Constitution.

Statement 3 is correct: Article 31C says that no law that seeks to implement socialistic directive principles specified in Articles 39 (b) and (c), shall be declared void on the grounds of contravention of the fundamental rights conferred by Article 14 or Article 19.

88. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Statement 1 is correct: Article 18 abolishes titles and makes provisions in that regard. The hereditary titles of nobility like Maharaja, Raj Bahadur, Rai Bahadur, Rai Saheb, Dewan Bahadur, etc., which were conferred by colonial States are banned by Article 18 as these are against the principle of equal status of all.

Statement 2 is incorrect: According to article 18(c), a foreigner holding any office of profit or trust under State cannot accept any title from any foreign state without the consent of the President. **No such bars for foreigners just residing in the country.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: It provides that no citizen or foreigner holding any office of profit or trust under the State is to accept any present, emolument or office from or under any foreign State without the consent of the president.

89. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 19 guarantees to all citizens the six rights under right to freedom and expression. These are:

1. Right to freedom of speech and expression.
2. Right to assemble peaceably and without arms.
3. Right to form associations or unions or co-operative societies.10a
4. Right to move freely throughout the territory of India.
5. Right to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India.
6. Right to practice any profession or to carry on any occupation, trade or business.

Originally, Article 19 contained seven rights. But, the right to acquire, hold and dispose of property was deleted by the 44th Amendment Act of 1978. These six rights are protected against only state action and not private individuals. Moreover, these rights are available only to the citizens and to shareholders of a company but not to foreigners or legal persons like companies or corporations, etc. **The State can impose 'reasonable' restrictions on the enjoyment of these six rights** only on the grounds mentioned in the Article 19 itself and not on any other grounds. The **Supreme Court has held that though there is Right to demonstration or picketing but not right to strike.**

90. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 29 provides for the 'Protection of Interest of Minorities'

1. **Article 29** provides that **any section of the citizens** residing in any part of India **having a distinct language, script or culture** of its own, **shall have the right to conserve the same.**
2. Further, **no citizen shall be denied admission into** any **educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of State funds** on grounds only of religion, race, caste, or language

Article 29 grants protection to both religious minorities as well as linguistic minorities. However, **the Supreme Court held that the scope of this article is not necessarily restricted to minorities only**, as it is commonly assumed to be. This is because of the use of words **'section of citizens' in the Article that include minorities as well as majority.**

Statement 2 is correct: The **Supreme Court also held** that the **right to conserve the Language under Article 29 includes the right to agitate for the protection of the language**. Hence, the political speeches or promises made for the conservation of the language of a section of the citizens does not amount to corrupt practice under the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Article 30 provides for the Right of Minorities to Establish and Administer Educational Institutions. It grants the following rights to minorities, whether **religious or linguistic**:

1. **All minorities shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.**
2. The compensation amount fixed by the State for the compulsory acquisition of any property of a minority educational institution shall not restrict or abrogate the right guaranteed to them.
3. In granting aid, the State shall not discriminate against any educational institution managed by a minority

Thus, the protection under Article 30 is confined only to minorities (religious or linguistic) and does not extend to any section of citizens (as under Article 29).

91. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

India was a **signatory** to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948). Thus, great precaution was taken so that Fundamental Rights as mentioned in Part 3 of Indian Constitution is concurrent with the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Option 1 is correct: Article 21 of the Indian Constitution provides that **no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty** excepted according to procedure established by law. Similarly, as per Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person and **no one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest,** detention or exile.

Option 2 is correct: Article 23 (1) of the Indian Constitution **prohibits traffic in human being and 'Begar' and other similar forms of forced labour** are prohibited and any contravention of this provision shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law. Similarly, UDHR provides that no one shall be held in slavery or servitude and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all forms.

Option 3 is correct: Article 25 (1) of the Indian Constitution provides that all persons are equally entitled to **freedom of conscience and right freely to profess, practice and propagate religion,** subject to public order, morality and health and to the provisions of this part. Similarly, according to provisions of UDHR, everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

92. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 30 of the Indian Constitution states the right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions. It says: "All minorities, whether based on religion or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice."

Statement 1 is incorrect. Any minority educational institutions (MEIs) which **seek recognition from the state but not aid from the state are subjected** to regulatory power of state with regard to syllabus prescription, academic standards, discipline, sanitation etc. MEIs which **neither seek recognition from the state nor aid from the state can manage their own affairs,** but general laws, labour law, taxation law, industrial law etc still apply to these institutions.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The RTE 2009 mandates all private schools to reserve 25 per cent seats to students from economically weaker sections at the entry level.

The Supreme Court in Society for Un-Aided Private Schools of Rajasthan v. Union of India held that the **Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 is not applicable** to unaided minority schools. Thus, **MEIs are not** required to provide admission to children in the age group of 6-14 years up to 25% of enrolment reserved for economically backward section of society.

93. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

Article 14 of the Indian Constitution deals with Equality before law.

Option 1 is correct: Article 361 of the Indian constitution affords an immunity to the President of India and the state Governors. Article 361 is **an exception to Article 14 (Right to Equality) of the Indian Constitution.** Among its key feature is that the President or the Governor is not answerable to any court for the exercise of the powers and duties of his office.

Option 2 is correct: As an exception to the Article 14, Foreign sovereigns (rulers), ambassadors, and diplomats are exempt from prosecution in both civil and criminal courts.

Option 3 is correct: Both Member of Parliaments and State legislatures enjoy immunity as an exception to Article 14. No member of Parliament shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament or any committee thereof. And. Similarly, no member of the Legislature of a state shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of anything said or any vote given by him in the Legislature or any committee thereof.

Option 4 is correct: The **member of the United Nations Organization and its agencies** are protected under diplomatic immunity.

94. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

Statement 1 is incorrect: Both **Martial Law and National Emergency impact fundamental rights**. However, **only National Emergency impacts Centre-State relations.**

Martial Law;

1. Under Martial Law, the **military takes control of the administration, and ordinary law is suspended.** This can **lead to the abrogation of fundamental rights as the military assumes judicial, legislative, and executive powers.**

National Emergency, on the other hand;

1. Can be declared on grounds of **war, external aggression, or armed rebellion**.
2. It has a broader impact than Martial Law as **it can alter the distribution of powers between the Centre and the states.**
3. During a National Emergency, the **Fundamental rights under Article 19 are automatically suspended**, and the **Parliament gets the power to legislate on subjects in the State List, thus affecting Centre-State relations**

Statement 2 is incorrect:

1. **Martial Law involves the suspension of government and ordinary law courts, not a National Emergency.**
2. During a **National Emergency, the ordinary courts continue to function.**
3. Under **Martial Law, the military assumes control, and the functioning of ordinary courts is halted**. The **military courts take over the judicial functions.**
4. During a **National Emergency, the constitutional machinery continues to operate, and ordinary courts remain functional**. The governance of the country still runs under the Constitution, albeit with altered power dynamics between the Centre and the states

Statement 3 is incorrect:

1. The Constitution of India has **explicit and detailed provisions for a National Emergency in Part XVIII, Articles 352 to 360**. These articles detail the grounds for proclamation, the effects on the federal structure, and the duration and revocation of an emergency. National Emergency is proclaimed due to war, external aggression, or armed rebellion.
2. **Martial Law is mentioned in the Constitution, but there are no detailed provisions or conditions/grounds for its imposition. Article 34** provides that Parliament may indemnify any public servant or any other person for acts done during Martial Law. However, the circumstances under which Martial Law can be declared are not specified in the Constitution.

Important Tips

Other key **differences between Martial law and National Emergency;**

1. **Imposition Reasons**: Martial Law is typically declared in response to a significant breakdown of law and order, whereas a National Emergency is proclaimed due to war, external aggression, or armed rebellion
2. **Geographical Scope**: Martial Law is imposed in specific localities where the breakdown of law and order has occurred, whereas a National Emergency can be declared for the entire country or specific parts of it, depending on the nature and extent of the threat

95. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 32 and Article 226 empowers Supreme Court and High Courts respectively to issue writs. The Supreme Court can issue writs only on the matters pertaining to the Fundamental Rights, whereas, High Courts can also issue writs for enforcement of other statutory rights (in addition to the Fundamental Rights).

Pair 1 is correct: The writ of Habeas Corpus **can be issued even against the private individuals**. The literal meaning of habeas corpus is 'to have the body of'. This is issued against any public and private individual who has detained another person, except when the:

1. Detention is lawful i.e., a person has been detained as per the procedure established by the law
2. Proceeding is for contempt of any court or legislature

3. Detention by a competent court
4. Detention is outside the court's jurisdiction.

Only this writ can be issued against the private individuals.

Pair 2 is incorrect: Certiorari, and not Mandamus, is issued to transfer a pending case from the lower court to a higher court. Mandamus means 'we command'. Through this writ, the Court asks an official to perform his **official duty.** It can be issued against a public official, public body, corporation, inferior court, tribunal and government. It cannot be issued against private individuals, department with no statutory backing, discretionary duty, enforcing contractual duty, President, Governors and Chief Justice of High Court acting in judicial capacity.

Pair 3 is incorrect: As stated above, mandamus is issued to public official directing him to perform his official duty. Certiorari is issued to transfer a pending case from a lower court to the higher writ issuing court. It is issued on the grounds of excess or lack of jurisdiction or error of law. It can be issued against courts, tribunals, quasi-judicial authorities and other administrative authorities.

Pair 4 is incorrect: Writ of **Quo warranto can be sought or requested by any interested person and not necessarily by an aggrieved person.** The writ can be issued only in case of a substantive public office of a permanent character created by the statute or the constitution. **It prevents illegal usurpation of the public office.** It is to be noted that this writ cannot be issued against a ministerial or a private office.

96. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

All Fundamental Rights are the Constitutional Rights, but vice versa need not be true. Despite, Fundamental Rights being part of the Constitutional Rights, there are differences between them. Amendment of Fundamental Rights requires special majority, but amendment to constitutional rights may not require a special majority. Besides, Supreme Court can issue writ only for the enforcement of the Fundamental rights.

Option 1 is correct: Article 326 in part XV deals with adult suffrage. It states that elections to the House of the People and to the Legislative Assemblies of States to be on the basis of adult suffrage.

Option 2 is correct: Article 265 in Part XII states that no tax can be levied except by the authority of law. In other words, levying of any tax must be based on a statute and it can only be imposed by an authority authorized under as such under a statute.

Option 3 is incorrect: Right to free legal aid falls under Article 21 of the Part III of the Constitution which provides Right to Life and Personal Liberty. In **Menaka Gandhi vs. Union of India case (1978)**, the scope of Article 21 has been expanded by the Supreme Court to include various rights such as right to free legal aid, right to fair trial, right to privacy, etc. In **M.H. Hoskot vs. State of Maharashtra,** Supreme Court reaffirmed that the right to free legal aid is the duty of the government and is implicit aspect of Article 21.

Option 4 is incorrect: Right against Untouchability has been provided under **Article 17 of Part III of the Indian Constitution.** Article 17 aims to abolish untouchability and forbid its practice in any form. The word 'untouchability' has not been defined under the Constitution.

Important Tips

Other important rights outside Part III of the Constitution are:

1. **Article 300-A (Part XII):** No person shall be deprived of his property except by the authority of the law.
2. **Article 301 (Part XIII):** Trade, commerce and intercourse throughout the territory of India shall be free.

97. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: In the State of Madras vs. VG Row, it has been held that the test of reasonableness **should be applied in the context of each statute concerned** and **no abstract standard or general pattern of reasonableness can be laid down as applicable to all the cases.** In other words, the 'reasonableness' has to be decided on a case-to-case basis. There are precedents, but the **Court has not laid down a general framework** for the reasonableness test applicable to all the cases. It will vary with **changing conditions, values of human life, social philosophy of the Constitution and so on.**

Statement 2 is correct: In the State of UP vs. Kaushailiya, Supreme Court has held that prevailing social values and social needs which are intended to be satisfied by the restrictions also help in deciding 'reasonableness' of a law. These social needs and values should be, therefore, kept in mind while deciding the constitutionality. Hence the given statement is correct.

Important Tips

Other considerations in deciding reasonableness can be:

1. The Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)
2. Arbitrariness and excessiveness of the restrictions
3. Balance between restrictions imposed and the social control envisaged.
4. Proximity between restrictions and the objects to be achived.

2.2. Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)

98. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

DPSP stands for **Directive Principles of State Policy**, which are a set of guidelines and principles laid down in the Indian Constitution to direct the state in matters of social, economic, and political importance. Although DPSP confer no legal rights and create no legal remedies, are significant and useful in the many ways.

Statement 1 is correct: Directive Principles of State Policy enable the **opposition to exercise influence and control over the operations of the government.** The Opposition can blame the ruling party on the ground that its activities are opposed to the Directives.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Fundamental Rights (and not Directive Principles of State Policy) act as a shield against any arbitrary action by the state or any other entity. In contrast, the **Directive Principles of State Policy are guidelines for the government to frame policies and laws for the welfare of the people. These principles are not enforceable by the courts.** While they provide a roadmap for the government to follow, they are not legally binding and cannot be enforced in a court of law.

Statement 3 is correct: Directive Principles of State Policy facilitate **stability and continuity in domestic and foreign policies in political, economic and social spheres** in spite of the changes of the party in power.

Statement 4 is correct: The DPSPs are a **set of guidelines and principles that the government is expected to keep in mind while making policies and laws**. Since the DPSPs are not legally enforceable, it is up to the government to voluntarily implement them. The implementation of these principles can provide an indication of the government's commitment towards ensuring the welfare of the people. Therefore, the implementation of **DPSPs can serve as a crucial test for the performance of the government in terms of its commitment towards the welfare of the people**.

99. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Directive Principles of State Policy are enumerated in Part IV of the Constitution from Articles 36 to 51. They require legislation for their implementation. They are not automatically enforced.

Statement 1 is correct: The policy of non-alignment and Panchsheel followed by India in international relations is a policy decision and reflects the principle of promoting international peace and cooperation, which is one of the **DPSP under Article 51**.

Statement 2 is correct: Enactment of old age pension schemes by state governments **reflects the DPSP in Article 41**, which states that the State shall provide public assistance in certain cases (secure the right to work, to education and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, **old age, sickness and disablement**).

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Supreme Court restraining governmental actions in order to protect privacy of an individual **does not directly reflect any specific DPSP**. It reflects the Fundament Right under Article 21 of Indian Constitution.

Statement 4 is correct: The Central legislation to protect the monuments, places and objects of national importance reflects the DPSP in Article 49, which states that the State shall protect monuments and places and objects of national importance.

100. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Constitution **does not contain any classification of Directive Principles**. However, on the basis of their content and direction, they can be **classified into three broad categories, viz, socialistic, Gandhian and liberal–intellectual.**

Statement 1 and 3 are correct: Liberal–Intellectual Principles included in this category represent the **ideology of liberalism**. They direct the state:

1. To **secure for all citizens a uniform civil code throughout the country (Article 44).**
2. To provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years9 (Article 45).
3. To organise agriculture and animal husbandry on modern and scientific lines (Article 48). 4. To protect and improve the environment and to safeguard forests and wild life10 (Article 48 A).
4. To protect monuments, places and objects of artistic or historic interest which are declared to be of national importance (Article 49).
5. To separate the judiciary from the executive in the public services of the State (Article 50).
6. To **promote international peace and security and maintain just and honourable relations between nations;** to foster respect for international law and treaty obligations, and to encourage settlement of international disputes by arbitration (Article 51)

Statement 2 is incorrect: **Promotion of cottage industries** on an individual or co-operation basis in rural areas are **based on Gandhian ideology**. They represent the programme of reconstruction enunciated by Gandhi during the national movement.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Taking steps to secure the participation of workers in the management of industries reflect the **ideology of socialism**. It lay down the framework of a democratic socialist state, aim at providing social and economic justice, and set the path towards welfare state.

101. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 37 of Indian Constitution defines the nature of DPSP. It states that **DPSPs are not enforceable in the courts but at the same time, it defines DPSPs as a duty of the state.** Moreover, the same Article defines DPSPs as principles that are **fundamental to the governance of any country.** It shows the relevance and significance of DPSPs in the constitution and in the governance of a country.

DPSPs were not made justiciable because **India did not have sufficient financial resources**. Moreover, its backwardness and diversity were also a hindrance in implementing these principles at that time. At the time of the drafting of the Constitution, India was a newly born independent state and was struggling with other issues and making DPSPs justiciable would have put India in great difficulty.

102. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Directive Principles of State Policy are enumerated in Part IV of the Constitution from Articles 36 to 51. They impose a moral obligation on the state authorities for their application,

but the real force behind them is political, that is, public opinion.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution **does not contain any classification of Directive Principles**. However, on the basis of their content and direction, they can be classified into three broad categories, viz, socialistic, Gandhian and liberal–intellectual.

Statement 2 is correct: The phrase 'Directive Principles of State Policy' denotes the **ideals that the State should keep in mind while formulating policies and enacting laws.** These are the constitutional instructions or recommendations to the State in legislative, executive and administrative matters. According to Article 36, the term 'State' in Part IV has the same meaning as in Part III dealing with Fundamental Rights. Therefore, it **includes the legislative and executive organs of the central and state governments, all local authorities and all other public authorities in the country**

103. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Fundamental Rights (FRs) and Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs) are two important provisions in the Constitution of India. The Directive Principles along with the Fundamental Rights contain the philosophy of the Constitution and is the soul of the Constitution.

Statement 1 is correct: DPSPs are guidelines and principles that are aimed at promoting the **social, economic, and political welfare of the community as a whole**. They include provisions for ensuring adequate means of livelihood, equal pay for equal work, protection of the environment, provision of education and health services, and promotion of social justice.

On the other hand, **FRs are guaranteed to every individual by the Constitution of India**. They include the right to equality, right to freedom, right against exploitation, right to freedom of religion, cultural and educational rights, and right to constitutional remedies. The aim of FRs is to protect the individual liberties and freedoms of the citizens and to ensure social, economic, and political justice.

Statement 2 is correct: If a law violates any of the FRs, a citizen can approach the courts and seek redressal for the violation. The cou**rts have the power of judicial review and can declare any law or executive action that violates FRs as unconstitutional and void**.

However, if a law violates any of the DPSPs, a citizen cannot approach the courts and seek redressal for the violation. DPSPs are non-justiciable in nature, which means that they are not enforceable by the courts. The **courts cannot declare a law violative of any of the DPSPs as unconstitutional and void.**

104. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

There are certain directives that are **outside of Part IV of the Indian Constitution**. They are also important principles that guide the governance of the country. There are some other Directives contained in other Parts of the Constitution. They are:

Option 1 is correct: Instruction in mother tongue is outside Part IV of the Constitution. It states that- It shall be the endeavour of every state and every local authority within the state to **provide adequate facilities for instruction in the mother-tongue at the primary stage of education to children** belonging to linguistic minority groups (Article 350-A in Part XVII).

Option 2 is incorrect: Protection and improvement of the environment and to safeguard forests and wild life in the country is a **part of DPSP under Article 48A.**

Option 3 is correct: Development of the Hindi Language is outside Part IV of the Constitution. It shall be the duty of the Union to **promote the spread of the Hindi language and to develop it so that it may serve as a medium of expression** for all the elements of the composite culture of India (Article 351 in Part XVII).

Option 4 is incorrect: Similarly, distribution of material resources of the community for the common good in an equitable manner is also a **part of DPSP under Article 39.**

Option 5 is correct: Claims of SCs and STs to Services is outside Part IV of the Constitution. The claims of the **members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be taken into consideration**, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration, in the **making of appointments to services** and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or a State (Article 335 in Part XVI).

105. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 47 of The Constitution of India is one of the Directive Principles which directs the State to **raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living and to improve public health** as among its primary duties and, in particular, the State shall endeavor to bring about prohibition of intoxicating drinks and drugs which are injurious to health.

National Food Security Act, 2013: As passed by the Parliament, Government has notified the National Food Security Act, 2013 on 10th September, 2013 with the objective to **provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach,** by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity. Thus, this act implements the directive mentioned in Article 47 under Part IV of Indian Constitution.

Option a is incorrect: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005 fulfils the **Article 41 of the DPSP (Directive Principle of State Policy)** of the Indian Constitution. Article 41 aims to secure work, education and public assistance rights for persons in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness, disablement, and undeserved want.

Option c is incorrect: Part IV of Indian Constitution, Article 45 and Article 39 (f) of DPSP, had a provision for state funded as well as equitable and accessible education.

Option d is incorrect: Article 24 of Fundamental Right provides for Prohibition of employment of children in factories, etc. Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 reaffirms this right under Indian Constitution.

106. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs) are enumerated in Part IV of the Constitution from Articles 36 to 51. These are the ideals that the State should keep in mind while formulating policies and enacting laws to establish a welfare state. Some articles have been inserted into the DPSP through constitutional amendments.

Row 1 is correct: Article 39A aims **promote equal justice and to provide free legal aid to the poor** to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities. It was inserted into the Constitution by the **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976.**

Row 2 is incorrect: Article 43A provides that the State shall take steps, by suitable legislation or in any other way, **to secure the participation of workers in the management of undertakings**, establishments or other organisations engaged in any industry whereas **Article 48A** requires the state to protect and improve the environment and wildlife. Both provisions were introduced through the **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976.**

Row 3 is correct: Article 45 was amended by the **86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002 to provide for early childhood care and education for all children below six years of age**, while free and compulsory education for children aged 6–14 years was made a Fundamental Right under Article 21A.

107. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Directive Principles encompass societal goals and objectives for the state to pursue. These principles guide the government in formulating policies and laws that promote social justice, economic equality, and the well-being of the people, shaping a just and equitable society.

Statement 2 is correct: Directive Principles encompass certain additional rights that individuals should have, extending beyond the Fundamental Rights. These principles outline the government's responsibility to ensure **adequate humane conditions of work, a decent standard of life, equal pay for equal work, secure the right of all men and women to an adequate means of livelihood etc.**

Statement 3 is correct: Directive Principles consist of recommended government policies and measures. They offer guidance to the government on issues such as **promoting equitable wealth distribution, environmental conservation, preserving historic monuments, and fostering a just and humane social order for the welfare of citizens.**

Statement 4 is incorrect: Directive Principles do not contain duties to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood among people; rather, **this idea relates to Fundamental Duties, which are outlined in a separate part of the Indian Constitution under Article 51A.**

108. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The above statement is explicitly written in the Constitution. Article 37 of the Indian Constitution states: "The Directive Principles of State Policy enumerated in this Part are neither justiciable nor enforceable in any court, but the principles therein laid down are nevertheless **fundamental in the governance of the country and it shall be the duty of the State to apply these principles in making laws."**

This means that the Directive Principles are not enforceable by the courts, but they are still fundamental to the governance of the country. The State has a duty to apply these principles when making laws.

109. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The directive principle to "raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living of people and to improve public health" **(Article 47)** is not based on Gandhian Principles. Instead, it **falls under the category of Socialistic Principles, emphasizing the goal of a democratic socialist state** that focuses on the welfare and well-being of the population.

DPSPs based on Gandhian Principles:

1. Empower and enable village panchayats for self-governance **(Article 40).**
2. Foster rural cottage industries individually or cooperatively **(Article 43).**
3. Support autonomous cooperative societies with democratic control **(Article 43B).**
4. Promote the welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and marginalized sections while safeguarding them from social injustice **(Article 46).**
5. Prohibits the consumption of harmful intoxicants **(Article 47).**
6. Prevent the slaughter of cows, calves, and other cattle, aiming to improve their breeds **(Article 48).**

110. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Directive Principles of State Policy has been amended four times.

1. 42nd Amendment Act, 1976- four new articles of Directive Principles added i.e., Article 39(f), Article 39A, Article 43A, and Article 48A.
2. 44th Amendment Act, 1978- A new Directive Principle was added under Article 38.
3. 86th Amendment Act, 2002- Article 45 altered, and Article 21A made a Fundamental Right.
4. 97th Amendment Act, 2011- A new Directive Principle under Article 43B was added.

Statement 1 is correct- Article 39 of the Indian Constitution mandates that the state must guarantee every citizen's entitlement to a sufficient means of livelihood. This encompasses:

1. Providing equal wages for women performing equivalent work.
2. Managing the allocation of resources and ownership in a manner that benefits the public interest.
3. Providing opportunities for the healthy development of children. **The provision in particular was added via the 42nd Amendment Act of 1976.**

Statement 2 is correct- Article 39A of the Indian Constitution was inserted by the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976. It states that the State shall ensure free legal aid and equal justice to the poor.

Statement 3 is incorrect- Article 47 of the Indian Constitution is a Directive Principle of State Policy. It states that the State shall regard the raising of the level of nutrition and the standard of living and improving public health as among its primary duties and, in particular, the State shall endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption except for medicinal purposes of intoxicating drinks and of drugs which are injurious to health. This article was not added via the 42nd Amendment Act, of 1976.

Statement 4 is correct- Article 48A of the Indian Constitution was inserted by the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976. It states that the State should endeavour to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country.

Important Tips

Article 39 (f)- Opportunities for healthy development of children.

Article 39 A- Equal Justice and free legal aid to the poor.

Article 43 A- Participation of workers in the management of industries.

Article 48 A- Protect and improve the environment, safeguard forests and wildlife.

Article 38- Reduce inequalities in income, opportunities, status and facilities.

Article 45- Early childhood care and education for all children up to the age of six years.

Article 43 B- Voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control, and professional management for cooperative societies.

111. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 43 of the Indian Constitution is a **Directive Principle of State Policy**. It states that the State shall endeavor to secure, by suitable legislation or economic organization or in any other way, to all workers, agricultural, industrial or otherwise, work, **a living wage**, conditions of work ensuring a decent standard of life and full enjoyment of leisure and social and cultural opportunities. Also, Article 43 of the Indian Constitution states that the State shall **endeavor to promote cottage industries on an individual or cooperative basis in rural areas.**

Important Tips

A living wage is the amount of money an individual or family needs to meet basic needs like food, shelter, clothing, healthcare, and transportation, calculated based on local living costs. In contrast, the minimum wage is the legally mandated lowest hourly rate set by the government, which is typically lower than the living wage. The key distinction is that a living wage is not legally required, while employers must pay at least the minimum wage by law.

112. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Apart from the Directives included in Part. IV that are considered Directive Principles of the State Policy, there are some other Directives for the state contained in other parts of the Constitution.

Option a is incorrect: Article 351 in Part XVII of the Constitution exhorts the State that it **shall be the duty of the Union to promote the spread of the Hindi language and to develop** it so that it may serve as a medium of expression for all the elements of the composite culture of India.

Option b is incorrect: Article 350-A of the Constitution of India states that —It shall be the endeavour of every State and of every local authority within the State to provide adequate facilities for instruction in the mother-tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups; and the President may issue such directions to any State as he considers necessary or proper for securing the provision of such facilities. (Article 350-A in Part XVII).

Option c is incorrect: Article 335 in Part XVI mentions that **claims of the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes shall be taken into consideration, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration, in the making of appointments to services and posts** in connection with the affairs of the Union or a State. It has **nothing to do with admission in educational institutions.** It is mentioned in **Article 46 that the State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people**, and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.

Option d is correct. "To raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living of people and to improve public health" is contained in Article 47 in Part IV of the Constitution.

113. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) are present in **Part IV of the Constitution of India.**

Statement 1 is correct. While Fundamental Rights aim to establish **political democracy**, the **Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) in the Indian Constitution focus on establishing social and economic democracy,** guiding the state towards a **welfare state and promoting socio-economic justice.**

Statement 2 is correct. DPSP are not justiciable, i.e., they are **not enforceable by the courts.** However, they are considered fundamental in governance and serve as moral and political directives for the state.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The Constitution has not categorized DPSPs into three categories - Gandhian, socialistic and liberal-intellectual. The scholars have done so for academic purposes.

1. **Socialistic Principles** aim at providing social and economic justice, setting the path towards a welfare state, and promoting equality.
2. **Gandhian Principles** reflect the program of reconstruction envisioned by Mahatma Gandhi during the national movement, with a focus on rural development and self-sufficiency.
3. **Liberal-Intellectual Principles** have a propensity towards the ideology of liberalism, focusing on individual rights, freedoms, and the rule of law.

114. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is correct-Article 51 provides that State should strive to – (a) promote international peace and security; (b) maintain just and honorable relations between nations; (c) promote respect for international law and treaty obligations in organized peoples' dealings with one another; and (d) encourage the resolution of international disputes through arbitration.

Pair 2 is correct – Article 50 provides that the State shall take steps to separate the judiciary from the executive in the public services of the state.

Pair 3 is incorrect – Article 40 The State is required to take steps to organize village panchayats.

Pair 4 is incorrect – Article 42 provides that the state shall ensure just and humane working conditions and maternity leave.

115. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

A Uniform Civil Code (UCC) seeks to create a uniform set of laws to replace the distinct personal laws of every religion pertaining to subjects such as marriage, divorce, adoption, and inheritance.

Statement 1 is correct. Article 44 of the Directive Principles of State Policy (part IV of the Constitution) says that the state **"shall endeavour to secure for the citizens a uniform civil code throughout the territory of India".**

Statement 2 is correct. Uniform Civil Code is intended single law applicable to all religious communities **in matters of marriage, divorce, inheritance of property and adoption.** Currently these subjects are dealt by fragmented personal laws of each religious community. These widely divergent laws and inconsistencies in them is contradictory to Article 14 of Constitution which guarantees equality before law. Further discriminatory nature of few personal laws against women also highlights the need for adoption of Uniform Civil Code.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Goa has been following the Portuguese Civil Code 1867, which is also called Uniform Civil Code. After its liberation from Portuguese rule, the **UCC survives through Section 5(1) of the Goa, Daman and Diu Administration Act, 1962.** So, Goa is the state which has UCC in force since long time. Further recently, **Uttarakhand also enacted law to implement a UCC.** However, it will not apply to "members of any Scheduled Tribes within the meaning of Article 366 and Article 142 of the Constitution of India and the persons and group of persons whose customary rights are protected under Part XXI of the Constitution of India."

Important Tips

- Personal laws have been placed in entry 5 of the Concurrent List. Thus, the power to legislate on personal laws is given to both Parliament and State Assemblies.
- In 2018, the Law Commission stated that UCC "is neither necessary nor desirable at this stage". It recommended that discriminatory practices, prejudices, and stereotypes within a particular religion and its personal laws should be studied and amended.

116. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Row 1 is correctly matched: Fundamental Rights, enshrined in Part III of the Constitution, are enforceable by the judiciary through writ petitions under Article 32 (Supreme Court) or Article 226 (High Courts). They **impose restrictions on both the executive and the legislature to ensure individuals' rights are not violated.** For instance, laws or actions by the state that contravene these rights can be struck down by the courts. Example: Striking down a law that discriminates on the grounds of religion or caste (Article 14).

Row 2 is incorrectly matched: DPSPs, outlined in Part IV of the Constitution, **are not enforceable by the judiciary as per Article 37.** They act as guidelines for the state to establish social and economic justice. However, **they do not directly impose restrictions on the legislature or executive. Instead, they aim to direct the legislature to formulate policies aligned with welfare objectives**, such as providing adequate means of livelihood or promoting equal pay for equal work. Courts cannot enforce them but can use them as interpretative tools to balance Fundamental Rights and constitutional principles.

Row 3 is correctly matched: Fundamental Duties, listed in Article 51A, are moral obligations on citizens to promote harmony, protect the environment, and uphold the Constitution. They are **non-justiciable, meaning they cannot be enforced by the judiciary.** Unlike Fundamental Rights or DPSPs, they **do not impose restrictions on the executive or legislature.** Their purpose is to remind citizens of their responsibilities rather than place legal obligations on the state.

117. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The **Directive Principles of State Policy** (DPSP) are outlined in **Part IV** of the Indian Constitution, spanning **Articles 36 to 51.**

- These principles, inspired by **the Irish Constitution** of 1937, which itself inspired from the **Spanish Constitution.**
- **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar** described them as **'novel features'** due to their role in guiding the state's governance.
- They **serve as moral and political directives to the State** that are fundamental to the governance of the country.

Statement 1 is correct: DPSPs aim to establish economic and social democracy in India by directing the **state to work towards a welfare state**. This contrasts with **Fundamental Rights**, which aim to ensure **political democracy** in India.

Statement 2 is correct: The **DPSPs resemble the "Instrument of Instructions" under the Government of India Act, 1935**, as both serve as guidelines for the state for ensuring the welfare of the people. The **"Instrument of Instructions" was a set of directives given to the Governor-General and provincial Governors**, advising them on how to govern and act in the best interest of the people. Similarly, **DPSPs are guidelines for the executive and the legislature**, to ensure socio-economic democracy.

Statement 3 is correct: 'Directive Principles of State Policy' are the ideals that the State should keep in mind while formulating policies and enacting laws. These are the constitutional instructions or recommendations to the State in legislative, executive and administrative matters.

118. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

According to **Article 36,** the term **'State' in Part IV** has the **same meaning as in Part III** dealing with **Fundamental Rights.** Therefore, it includes the legislative and executive organs of the central and state governments, all local authorities and all other public authorities in the country.

Option 1 is correct. District Boards are local authorities as per **Article 12** and fall within the definition of **"State."** As a local governance body, they must adhere to Directive Principles while making decisions or policies.

Option 2 is correct. LIC is a statutory corporation created under the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956 and operates under the control of the Central Government. It is classified as **"State" under Article 12** because it performs public functions and is subject to the policies of the government.

In Sukhdev v. Bhagatram, LIC (Life Insurance Corporation of India), ONGC (Oil and Natural Gas Corporation) and IFC (International Finance Corporation) were held to be state as they perform very similar functions which seem to be governmental or sovereign functions. **Option 3 is correct. Panchayats** are local self-governance bodies. As local authorities, they fall under the definition of **"State" in Article 12.** Panchayats are bound to follow the principles laid out in Part IV while formulating policies.

Option 4 is incorrect. The **judiciary is not specifically mentioned** in the Constitution's Article 12 description of "State." However, the judiciary is considered as **part of the "State"** when performing **administrative or non-judicial functions** (e.g., recruitment, policymaking). However, when the judiciary performs purely **judicial functions,** such as deciding disputes between parties or interpreting laws, it is independent and does **not** fall within the definition of **"State."** The independence of the judiciary is a cornerstone of the Constitution, and its judicial role is not subject to Part IV.

119. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Fundamental Duties, enshrined in Article 51A of the Indian Constitution, are moral obligations for citizens. They promote patriotism, uphold unity, and foster respect for the nation's heritage and values.

Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP), enshrined in Articles 36 to 51 of the Indian Constitution, provide non-binding guidelines for governance. Aimed at social and economic justice, they guide state policy to achieve a just and humane society.

Statement 1 is correct: 'Protection and improvement of the environment, forests, and wildlife' is found in both Fundamental Duties (Article 51A(g)) and Directive Principles of State Policy (Article 48A).

Statement 2 is incorrect: 'Safeguarding public property' is primarily reflected in Fundamental Duties (**Article 51A(i)**) and is not explicitly stated in the Directive Principles of State Policy.

Statement 3 is incorrect: 'The promotion of cooperatives' is present in the Directive Principles of State Policy (**Article 43**), it is not listed as a Fundamental Duty.

120. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 39A of the Constitution of India provides for free legal aid to the poor and weaker sections of the society and ensures justice for all. Articles 14 and 22(1) of the Constitution also make it obligatory for the State to ensure equality before law and a legal system which promotes justice based on equal opportunity to all.

The sections of the society as enlisted under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act,1987 are entitled for free legal services, they are:

a) A member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe;

b) A victim of trafficking in human beings or begar as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution;

c) A woman or a child;

d) A mentally ill or otherwise disabled person;

e) A person under circumstances of undeserved want such as being a victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster; or

f) An industrial workman; or

g) In custody, including custody in a protective home within the meaning of clause (g) of Section 2 of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956(104 of 1956); or in a juvenile home within the meaning of clause(j) of Section 2 of the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 (53 of 1986); or in a psychiatric

hospital or psychiatric nursing home within the meaning of clause (g) of Section 2 of the Mental Health Act, 1987(14 of 1987);or

h) a person in receipt of annual income less than the amount mentioned in the following schedule (or any other higher amount as may be prescribed by the State Government), if the case is before a Court other than the Supreme Court, and less than Rs 5 Lakh, if the case is before the Supreme Court.

121. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) are guidelines or principles laid down in **Part IV of the Indian Constitution.** They provide a framework for the government to establish a social order that promotes the welfare of the people and a just society.

Statement 1 is correct: The "Instrument of Instructions" contained in the Government of India Act 1935 have been incorporated in the Constitution of India in the year 1950 as DPSP.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) are guidelines for the State, both executive and legislative branches, to follow while formulating policies and laws. **These are the constitutional instructions or recommendations to the State in legislative, executive and administrative matters and doesn't impose any restrictions on executive or legislative actions.** Therefore, they apply to both executive and legislative actions but it doesn't impose any restrictions on them, unlike Fundamental Rights.

Statement 3 is incorrect:

The 25th Amendment Act introduced a new Article 31C, which included the following provisions:

1. **Laws aimed at implementing the socialistic Directive Principles outlined in Article 39(b) and (c) shall not be invalidated for contravening Fundamental Rights under Article 14, 19, or 31 (not any of the Fundamental Rights). Hence the statement given is incorrect.**
2. Laws with a declaration to enforce such policies shall not be challenged in any court for not effectively implementing said policy.

Also, In the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973), the Supreme Court deemed the second provision of Article 31C unconstitutional, asserting that judicial review is an inherent aspect of the Constitution and cannot be nullified. However, the first provision of Article 31C was upheld as constitutional and valid. **Hence again, the statement given is incorrect.**

2.3. Fundamental Duties

122. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Indian Constitution is inspired from the Constitution of Countries like UK, USSR, USA, Ireland, Japan, Canada, etc. The Part IV A of Indian Constitution that is the **Fundamental Duties** are **inspired** from the Constitution of **Soviet Union (USSR).**

Statement 2 is incorrect and Statement 3 is correct: Originally, the Indian Constitution did not contain Fundamental Duties. In 1976, the Congress Party **setup the Sardar Swaran Singh committee to make recommendation about Fundamental Duties**. The recommendation of the committee was accepted by the Government and **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act added a new part, namely Part IV A (Fundamental Duties) to the Constitution of India.** It added 10 Fundamental Duties. The 86th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2002 added one more fundamental duty.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Unlike some of the **Fundamental Rights** that are **applicable** to all persons whether **Citizens or Foreigners, The Fundamental Duties** are confined **only to Citizens of India.**

123. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Fundamental Duties are intended to serve as a constant reminder to every citizen that while the Constitution conferred on them certain Fundamental Rights specifically, it also requires citizens to observe certain basic norms of democratic conduct and democratic behaviour because rights and duties are correlative.

Statements 1, 3, 5 and 6 are correct.

The **Article 51(a)** of the Indian Constitution mentions the following **Fundamental Duties:**

1. **to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem.** The Fundamental Duty does not contain any duty regarding National Song. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
2. to cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom;
3. **to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India; Hence, statement 5 is correct.**
4. to defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so;
5. to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities; to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women;
6. to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture;
7. **to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life, and to have compassion for living creatures; Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
8. **to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform; Hence, statement 6 is correct.**
9. to safeguard public property and to abjure violence;
10. to strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement;
11. to provide opportunities for education to his child or ward between the age of six and fourteen years.

Statements 2 and 4 are incorrect: Part IV of the Indian Constitution (Article 36–51) contains the **Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP).** DPSP consists of all the ideals which the State should follow and keep in mind while formulating policies and enacting laws for the country. **Following are some of DPSP mentioned in Indian Constitution.**

1. **Article 45** provides for **early childhood care and education to children below the age of six years.**
2. **Article 51** provides for the **establishment of international peace and security.**

124. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statements 1, 2, and 3 are correct: In spite of criticisms and opposition, the fundamental duties are considered significant from the following viewpoints:

1. **They serve as a warning against the antinational and antisocial activities** like burning the national flag, destroying public property and so on. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
2. They serve as a source of inspiration for the citizens and **promote a sense of discipline and commitment among them. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
3. They create a feeling that the citizens are not mere spectators but active participants in the realization of national goals.
4. They help the courts in examining and determining the constitutional validity of a law
5. **The Parliament can provide for suitable legislation** to impose appropriate penalty or punishment for failure to fulfil any of them. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
6. They serve as a reminder to the citizens that while enjoying their rights, they should also be conscious of duties they owe to their country, their society and to their fellow citizens.

125. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The **Verma Committee** on Fundamental Duties of the Citizens (1999) **identified the existence of legal provisions for the implementation of some of the fundamental duties.**

Option a is incorrect. Thungon Committee: In 1988, a sub-committee of the Consultative Committee of Parliament was constituted under the chairmanship of P.K. Thungon to examine the political and administrative structure in the district for the purpose of district planning.

Option b is incorrect. Sarkaria Commission: was set up in 1983 by the central government to examine the central-state relationship.

Option c is incorrect. Ranganath Misra Commission: National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities, also called as Ranganath Misra Commission was constituted by Government of India in 2004 to look into various issues related to Linguistic and Religious minorities in India.

126. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 51A of the Indian Constitution provides for the eleven Fundamental Duties. They were not part of the original Constitution. They were added later by the 42nd Amendment Act (1976) and 86th Amended Act (2002).

Statement 1 is incorrect. Presently, the Constitution enumerates eleven fundamental duties. Ten were added by the 42nd Amendment Act of 1976. An **eleventh one was added later by the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2002.**

Statement 2 is correct. The Fundamental Duties are non-justiciable. The Constitution does not provide for their direct enforcement. There is no legal sanction against their violation.

They are **not directly enforceable.** However, **the Parliament is free to enforce them** by suitable legislation. For instance, the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act (1971) prevents disrespect to the Constitution of India, the National Flag and the National Anthem.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The Fundamental Duties are **confined to the citizens only and do not extend to foreigners.**

Important Tips

List of Fundamental Duties:

- to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem;
- to cherish and follow the noble ideals that inspired the national struggle for freedom;
- to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India;
- to defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so;
- to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities and to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women;
- to value and preserve the rich heritage of the country's composite culture;
- to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures;
- to develop scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform;
- to safeguard public property and to abjure violence;
- to strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement; and
- to provide opportunities for education to his/her child or ward between the age of six and fourteen years **(added by the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002.)**

127. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

By the 42nd Amendment of the Constitution, adopted in 1976, Fundamental Duties of the citizens have also been enumerated. Article 51 'A', contained in Part IV A of the Constitution deals with Fundamental Duties.

Statement 1 is correct: Fundamental duties are non-justiciable, which means that a court cannot punish a citizen for violating a fundamental duty. However, Parliament can enforce them by suitable laws. For example, Parliament can stipulate the imposition of fines or other punishment for failure to comply with any of Fundamental Duties.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Initially, the Indian Constitution lacked a formal list of obligations/duties for its citizens. However, the 42nd Constitutional Amendment introduced a set of fundamental duties into the Indian Constitution, comprising a total of 10 duties. The duty to protect the natural environment and wildlife was added as a Fundamental Duty through the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976 (not the 44th Constitutional Amendment).

Statement 3 is incorrect: Fundamental Duties, as per the Indian Constitution, are applicable exclusively to Indian citizens, not to foreigners. These duties are moral and ethical obligations that citizens are expected to follow voluntarily.

Statement 4 is correct: The Swaran Singh Committee, which was appointed by the government in 1975 to recommend reforms to the Constitution, had recommended the inclusion of Fundamental Duties. The committee argued that Fundamental Duties were necessary to promote a sense of civic responsibility and national unity among citizens.

128. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 51A of the Indian Constitution, inserted by the **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976**, enumerates **11 Fundamental Duties** for Indian citizens. These duties are **not legally enforceable** but serve as a **moral obligation** to promote responsible citizenship.

Option 1 is correct: "To safeguard public property and to abjure violence" is explicitly mentioned under **Article 51A(i)**. It aims to instill respect for public resources and discourage destructive behavior.

Option 2 is correct: "To strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity" is listed under **Article 51A(j)**. It encourages continuous personal and societal growth.

Option 3 is incorrect: While the **Swaran Singh Committee** recommended making **paying taxes** a Fundamental Duty, this was **not accepted** in the final list of Article 51A duties. Thus, it is **not a Fundamental Duty**.

Option 4 is correct: "To protect and improve the natural environment" is provided under **Article 51A(g)**, including care for forests, lakes, rivers, and wildlife.

Option 5 is correct: "To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India" is mentioned under **Article 51A(c)**, reflecting a citizen's duty towards national unity and patriotism.

Important Tips

1. The **11 Fundamental Duties** were inspired by the Constitution of the **USSR (now Russia)**.
2. These duties are **applicable only to citizens**, not to foreigners (as per Article 51A).
3. Though **non-enforceable by courts**, Parliament can enact laws to give them statutory backing (e.g., **Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971**).
4. The **86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002** added the 11th duty: for parents/guardians to provide opportunities for education to their child aged 6–14 years.
5. These duties aim to build a **harmonious society**, balancing **rights and responsibilities**, and fostering **patriotism, unity, and moral discipline.**

129. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Sardar Swaran Singh Committee, established by the Union Govt. in 1976 during the internal emergency, recommended adding a chapter on fundamental duties to the Constitution. This led to the inclusion of Part IVA in the Constitution, consisting of Article 51A, specifying ten fundamental duties for citizens, through the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976.

Statement 1 is correct- The Swaran Singh Committee recommended penalties or sanctions for failing to fulfill Fundamental Duties. This provision was rejected by the congress party government and, hence, never included in the Fundamental Duties. The Swaran Singh Committee recommended that any law that imposes such penalties or punishments cannot be challenged in any court on the basis of violating Fundamental Rights or being contradictory to any other Constitutional provision. This provision was rejected by the congress party government and was not incorporated in the Fundamental Duties.

Statement 2 is correct- The Swaran Singh Committee recommended that the duty to pay taxes should be included in the list of Fundamental Duties. This provision was rejected by the Congress Party government and was not incorporated in the Fundamental Duties.

Statement 3 is incorrect-The Swaran Singh Committee did not recommend to the government to provide free and compulsory education for the children aged between 6 to 14 years. This responsibility was introduced through the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2002.

130. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Fundamental duties have been added in the Constitution by the **42nd Amendment Act, 1976** in accordance with the recommendations of **Swaran Singh Committee**. These duties are enshrined in **Part IVA** of the Constitution of India.

Statement-I is correct: Fundamental duties assist the Courts in assessing and determining the constitutional validity of a law. **The Supreme Court ruled that if a law aligns with a fundamental duty, the court may consider it "reasonable"** concerning Article 14 (equality before law) or Article 19 (six freedoms), thus **preventing it from being deemed unconstitutional.**

Statement-II is correct but does not explain the Statement-I: Similar to the Directive Principles, fundamental duties are non-justiciable, meaning they cannot be directly enforced by the courts. However, **the Parliament has the authority to enforce them through appropriate legislation**. But this **does not explain Statement I, as the judiciary can still utilize fundamental duties to assess a law's constitutionality even without specific legislation enforcing them.**

2.4. Cooperatives

131. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Ninety-Seventh (97th) Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2011 granted constitutional status to the Cooperative Societies and made the following provisions, namely:

Option 1 is correct. Right to form cooperative societies was included as a Fundamental Right by insertion of the words "cooperative societies" in Article 19(1)(c) in **Part III** of the Constitution. It guarantees right to form associations or unions or co-operative societies;

Option 2 is correct. Article 43B was inserted in **Part IV** of the Constitution as Directive Principle of State Policy for promotion of cooperative societies. Article 43B says that the State shall endeavour to promote voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control and professional management of co-operative societies.

Option 3 is incorrect. The Fundamental Duty does not contain any provision with respect to cooperative societies.

132. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The **97th Constitutional Amendment Act**, passed in **2011**, primarily aimed to give **constitutional status and protection to cooperative societies** in India.

Option 1 is correct: The 97th Amendment **added "co-operative societies" as a right under Article 19(1)(c),** which guarantees the **right to form associations or unions.**

Option 2 is correct: A new **Article 43B was added under Part IV,** which directs the state to promote the voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control, and professional management of cooperative societies.

Option 3 is incorrect: The amendment did not make any changes to **Part IV-A**, which contains Fundamental Duties.

133. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

National Cooperative Development Cooperation (NCDC) was established by an act of Parliament in **1963** as a statutory corporation.

National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) is an institute of national importance established by an act of the Indian Parliament in **1965.** It was founded by Dr Verghese Kurien, often called 'India's milkman'

NABARD Act, 1981: The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Act was passed in 1981 and NABARD was set up in 1982 to provide re-finance support to Cooperative Banks and to supplement the resources of Commercial Banks and Regional Rural Banks to enhance credit flow to the agriculture and rural sector.

Ministry of Cooperation was created in **2021** by transferring the existing entries related to cooperation and cooperative in the business of the erstwhile Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare.

134. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The 97th Amendment of 2012 introduced Part IXB into the Constitution, outlining the regulations for the operation of cooperative societies. Part IXB, encompassing Articles 243ZH to 243ZT, has had a significant impact on the State legislatures' control over their cooperative sectors.

Statement-I is correct: Supreme Court of India has held that **Part IX B of the Constitution applies only to multi-state cooperative societies.** This judgement came in the context of the Central Government's actions to prescribe the appropriate number of directors, their tenure, and the qualifications necessary for individuals to join a society.

Statement-II is correct: It is true that the **"Co-operative societies" is a subject enumerated in**

Entry 32 of the list II (state list) of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, hence the state legislatures have the authority to enact legislations on co-operative societies.

The Supreme Court clarified that since cooperative societies fall within the realm of the "exclusive legislative authority" of State legislatures, the **provisions of Part IX B of the Constitution are applicable exclusively to multi-state cooperative societies.** This explains the first statement.

135. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls and the conduct of elections to a co-operative society shall vest in such body, as may be provided by the state legislature. This body manages the preparation of electoral rolls and the execution of elections for cooperative societies, ensuring a smooth transition between the outgoing and incoming board members, and maintaining the cooperative's functional continuity as part of its supervisory and directive responsibilities.

2.5. Basic Structure

136. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

The **Kesavananda Bharati case (1973)** introduced the doctrine of basic Structure to **limit the amendment power of parliament** to prevent any changes in the constitution that may affect the **basic values enshrined in the Constitution.**

Statement 1 is incorrect: Basic structure of the constitution ensures the supremacy of constitution in India, not judicial supremacy. Basic structure doctrine was introduced by the

Supreme court to **prevent the excessive use of power by any organs of the state - legislature, executive or judiciary** to uphold the core provisions of the constitution of India.

Statement 2 is correct: It is true that bill amending the constitution cannot be introduced in the state legislative assemblies. In fact, **no constitutional amendment bill can be introduced in the state legislative assembles.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: Parliament can amend fundamental rights if such changes does not affect the basic structure of the constitution. Thus, it is incorrect to say that basic structure prohibits parliament from amending any of the fundamental rights. The Supreme court in **Kesavanandha Bharati case upheld** the validity of the 24th Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA) and held that parliament is empowered to take away or abridge any of the Fundamental Rights, if such changes does not alter the basic structure of the constitution.

Statement 4 is incorrect: High court can strike down laws/ executive actions even if it violates non-basic structure of the constitution. **Article 226** of the Indian constitution gives the high court the power to review legislative/executive actions which contravenes any of the constitutional provisions which includes both basic and non-basic features of the constitution.

137. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The basic features of the Indian Constitution encompass its fundamental principles, such as the supremacy of the Constitution, fundamental rights, federalism, secularism, and the separation of powers. The Kesavananda Bharati case of 1973 provided the doctrine of the basic structure, affirming that while Parliament can amend the Constitution, it cannot alter its foundational framework.

Option 1 is correct: the **concept of a welfare state, emphasizing socio-economic justice, is indeed a part of basic structure of Indian Constitution.** It is enshrined in the Directive Principles of State Policy.

Option 2 is incorrect: The **supremacy of Parliament is not a part of basic structure of the constitution as the constitution provides for Separation of powers between the legislature, the executive and the judiciary.** As per, Supreme Court of India, 'Supremacy of the Constitution' is a basic structure of the constitution.

Option 3 is correct: **Free and fair elections is part of basic structure of the constitution.**

Option 4 is correct: The **federal character of the Indian Constitution is indeed considered a basic structure of the Indian Constitution. It reflects the division of powers between the central government and the state governments.**

138. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Supreme Court's stance on amending Fundamental Rights under Article 368 evolved through several cases. Initially, in the Shankari Prasad case (1951), it permitted such amendments. However, the Golak Nath case (1967) reversed this, asserting Fundamental Rights' immunity to parliamentary changes. The 24th Amendment Act (1971) reinstated Parliament's authority. The Kesavananda Bharati case (1973) affirmed this power while introducing the 'basic structure' doctrine, limiting amendments that could alter the Constitution's fundamental framework.

Statement 1 is incorrect- The Supreme Court has **not explicitly defined the basic structure** of the Constitution, but it has identified a number of features that it considers to be essential. Some of those features are- Supremacy of the Constitution, harmony and balance between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles, Rule of Law, Separation of powers between the legislative, executive, and the judiciary.

Statement 2 is correct- The basic structure of the Constitution of India is a set of core principles that **cannot be amended** by the Parliament of India. This doctrine was established in the landmark Supreme Court case of Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala in 1973.

Statement 3 is correct- The basic structure doctrine consolidates the balance between rigidity and flexibility of the Indian Constitution. The Indian Constitution is a flexible document, meaning that it can be amended by the Parliament of India. However, the basic structure doctrine limits the power of the Parliament to amend the Constitution. The basic structure of the Constitution includes fundamental rights, the federal structure, the separation of powers, and the rule of law etc. The Parliament cannot amend any provision of the Constitution that violates the basic structure.

2.6. Emergency Provisions

139. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Under Article 352, **the President can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion.** The President can declare a national emergency even before the actual occurrence of war or external aggression or armed rebellion, if he/she is satisfied that there is an imminent danger.

Statement 1 is correct. The President of India can proclaim a national emergency only after receiving a written recommendation from the Union cabinet. The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 introduced this safeguard. This safeguard was introduced to prevent unilateral decisions by the Prime Minister, as seen in 1975 when Prime Minister advised the President to declare an Emergency without consulting the Union Cabinet.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The proclamation of Emergency must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within one month from the date of its issue. If approved by both the Houses of Parliament, the emergency continues for six months. It can be extended to an indefinite period with an approval of the Parliament for every six months. This provision for periodical parliamentary approval was added by the 44th Amendment Act of 1978.

As per article 352 (5) "A Proclamation so approved shall, unless revoked, **cease to operate on the expiration of a period of six**

months from the date of the passing of the second (i.e second house) of the resolutions". This means the maximum life of National emergency **can be more than 6 months (but the statement in the question says proclamation of Emergency can continue for a maximum period of six months at a time)**. National emergency will be operative for 6 months from the date when the proclamation was passed by both the houses. E.g. If a proclamation for National Emergency is issued at a time when the Lok Sabha has been dissolved, and if the resolution approving the proclamation has been passed by the Council of States. The proclamation shall cease to operate at the expiration of thirty days from the date on which the Lok Sabha first sits after its reconstitution, unless before the expiration of the said period of thirty days a resolution approving the proclamation has been also passed by the Lok Sabha. **Now the date on which Lok Sabha passes the proclamation from that date till the next 6 months the proclamation for national emergency will be valid.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. According to Article 250 of the Constitution of India, during a national emergency, **the Parliament becomes empowered to make laws on any subject mentioned in the State List. Although the legislative power of a state legislature is not suspended,** it becomes subject to the overriding power of the Parliament

Statement 4 is correct. Article 352 in Constitution of India provides that a proclamation of emergency may be revoked by the President at any time by a subsequent proclamation. Such a proclamation **does not require parliamentary approval.**

140. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 355 of Indian Constitution imposes a duty on the Centre to ensure that the governance of every state is carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. In case of a failure of constitutional machinery in a state, the Centre can take over the state government based on Article 356 of Indian Constitution., commonly known as President's Rule and it can be imposed on two grounds.

Statement 1 is correct: As per Article 356(1) of the Indian Constitution, if the President, based on a report from the Governor of the State or through other means, is satisfied that the governance of the State cannot be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, **they may impose President's Rule in that state.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Chief Minister of a state resigning before completing their tenure cannot be considered as the ground for declaration of the President rule. If a new alternative government with majority can be formed in the legislative assembly, there is no need for President's Rule.

Statement 3 is correct: Article 365 of the Indian Constitution states that **if a state fails to comply with or implement any direction issued by the Centre,** the President may deem that a situation has arisen where the governance of the state cannot be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and **can impose the President rule in the state.**

Statement 4 is incorrect: According to Article 365 of Indian Constitution, President rule can be imposed only in the event of a breakdown of constitutional machinery. In **S R Bommai case (1994), Supreme court stated that President rule *Cannot be invoked for* an ordinary breakdown of law and order.**

Important Tips

Article 356 of the Indian Constitution empowers the President to impose President's Rule in a state if its government cannot function per constitutional provisions. However, it has faced criticism for frequent misuse due to political motivations. The landmark **S.R. Bommai v. Union of India (1994)** judgment by the Supreme Court established that **the imposition of President's Rule is subject to judicial review** and laid down strict guidelines to prevent its arbitrary use.

141. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

A state of emergency in India, governed by Part XVIII of the Constitution (Article 352 to 360), allows the President, on the cabinet's advice, to temporarily suspend certain constitutional provisions to protect the nation's sovereignty, unity, and constitutional framework in times of crisis. The Constitution of India specifies **three types of emergencies: National Emergency, Constitutional Emergency (President's rule), and Financial Emergency.**

Statement 1 is correct: Article 352 empowers the President to declare a national emergency in the event of **threats to India's security, including war, external aggression, or armed rebellion.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: According to the 44th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1978, the period for approval of the national emergency proclamation by both Houses of Parliament is one month, not two months. Additionally, if the Lok Sabha dissolves during this period, the proclamation remains in effect until 30 days after the first sitting of the reconstituted Lok Sabha, as long as the Rajya Sabha has approved it in the meantime.

Statement 3 is correct: The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 instituted the provision that a national emergency, if approved by both Houses of Parliament, can last for six months, and its extension to an indefinite period is subject to Parliament's approval every six months. If the Lok Sabha dissolves within the six-month period without approving the continuation, the emergency persists until 30 days after the first sitting of the reconstituted Lok Sabha, provided the Rajya Sabha has, in the meantime, approved its continuation.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The President of India can revoke the National Emergency by a proclamation without the approval of the Parliament.

142. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 360 authorizes the President to declare a Financial Emergency when they are convinced that a situation threatens the financial stability or credit of India or any of its territories.

Parliamentary approval is required within two months, but if the Lok Sabha dissolves during this period, the proclamation remains effective until 30 days after the Lok Sabha reconvenes, provided the Rajya Sabha has endorsed it. **Once both houses approve, the Financial Emergency remains in force until revoked.**

Option a is correct: It is correct that the Fundamental Rights provided under Part III of the Constitution are not suspended/affected when the Financial Emergency is in operation.

Option b is correct: During a financial emergency, the President can issue directives to reduce the salaries and allowances of individuals serving the Union or the states, to manage the financial crisis. Also, in a financial emergency, the President can issue directives to reduce the salaries and allowances of judges in both the Supreme Court and the high courts, as part of austerity measures.

Option c is correct: In a financial emergency, the central government gains complete control over financial matters within the states, effectively overriding the normal distribution of financial powers in a federal structure.

Option d is incorrect: During a financial emergency, state governments can pass money bills and financial bills, but any such bills must be reserved for the President's consideration after they are passed by the state legislature. **It is not that they cannot pass such bills, but they are subject to the President's review.**

143. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The President's Rule (Article 356) is a constitutional provision that allows the central government to assume control over a state's administration in certain circumstances.

Statement 1 is incorrect: When the President's Rule is declared, **both Houses of Parliament must approve it with a simple majority (i.e. by a majority of 50% of the members present and voting)** within two months. If the Lok Sabha is dissolved when the proclamation is issued or during those two months without approval, the proclamation remains valid until 30 days after the Lok Sabha reconvenes, as long as the Rajya Sabha approves it in the meantime.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Initially, the President's Rule can be in effect for six months, but it can be extended for a maximum of three years with periodic parliamentary approvals every six months.

The 44th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1978 introduced a provision allowing the **extension of the President's Rule beyond one year**, six months at a time, only under two specific conditions:

1. **A proclamation of National Emergency** is in effect throughout India or in the entire state or any part of it.
2. **The Election Commission of India (ECI) certifies that general elections** for the Legislative Assembly of the state cannot be conducted due to certain difficulties.

Statement 3 is correct: Chhattisgarh and Telangana are the only States in India **where** the **President's Rule has never been imposed.**

144. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In India, a national emergency, as defined by Article 352 of the Constitution, can be declared by the President when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war, external aggression, or armed rebellion. Such an emergency has been declared three times: in 1962, 1971, and 1975.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Initially, the President can proclaim national emergency only after getting a recommendation from the Prime Minister. However, the 44th amendment act, 1978 substituted this provision. Now, **the President of India can proclaim a national emergency only after receiving a written recommendation from the Cabinet (that is to say, the Council consisting of the Prime Minister and other Ministers of Cabinet rank under article 75 of the Constitution) and not just the Prime Minister.**

Statement 2 is correct. The President can proclaim national emergency even before the actual occurrence of war, external aggression or armed rebellion, if he is satisfied that there is an imminent threat to the security of India.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The declaration of national emergency in India must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within one month of its issuance. Every resolution approving the proclamation must be passed by a special majority in both Houses of Parliament.

Statement 4 is correct. The emergency can be extended indefinitely with the approval of the Parliament every six months. This provision of periodic approval (every six months) was added by the 44th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1978.

145. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

When a **Financial Emergency** is declared under **Article 360 of** the Indian Constitution, the Union government gains certain powers to safeguard the financial stability of the country.

Statement 1 is correct. During the period of operation of financial emergency, the executive authority of the **Union** shall extend to the giving of **directions** to any state to observe such **canons of financial propriety**, and to the giving of such other directions as the President may deem necessary and adequate for the purpose. This is explicitly mentioned under **Article 360(3).** The **Centre can set conditions for borrowing,** ensuring that States do not engage in excessive borrowing or incur unsustainable debt. For instance, **the Union Government may require the State to observe limits on borrowing** or make budgetary provisions for repayment.

Statement 2 is correct. During a **Financial Emergency,** the Centre can issue directions to the Governor of a state to **reserve money bills or other financial bills for Presidential consideration** under **Article 360(4).**

146. Solution: (d)

Exp) option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Approval for Emergency under Article 356 (Presidents Rule) and Article 360 (Financial Emergency) **both requires Simple majority and not special majority.**

Statement 2 is incorrect. The maximum duration for which **Presidents Rule can be extended it 3 years with approval of Parliament every 6 months.** However, **Financial Emergency once proclaimed can continue indefinitely until revoked.** Unlike President's Rule, there is no maximum period for Financial Emergency, and it also does not require repeated approvals of parliament for its continuance.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Fundamental rights are neither affected under President's Rule nor under Financial Emergency. Fundamental rights are affected only under National Emergency under article 352.

147. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 360 empowers the President to proclaim a Financial Emergency if he is satisfied that a situation has arisen due to which the financial stability or credit of India or any part of its territory is threatened.

Statement 1 is correct: During Financial Emergency, the **President may issue directions for the reduction of salaries and allowances of**

a) all or any class of persons serving the Union; and

b) the judges of the Supreme Court and the high court.

Statement 2 is correct: During Financial Emergency, the president, **the executive authority of the Centre extends to the giving of**

a) directions to any state to **observe such canons of financial propriety** as may be specified in the directions.

b) Any such **directions** to any state as the President may deem necessary and adequate for the purpose may include—

1. a provision requiring the **reduction of salaries and allowances of all or any class of persons** serving in connection with the affairs of a State;
2. provision requiring **all Money Bills or other Bills** to which the provisions of **article 207** apply to be **reserved for the consideration of the President** after they are passed by the Legislature of the State.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The financial emergency **does not provide any such authority** to President where he can authorise the powers of state (including financial matters) to be exercised by the Parliament. Whereas it is during the President Rule (Article 356) that the President acquires the following extraordinary powers:

1. He can take up the functions of the state government and powers vested in the Governor or any other executive authority in the state.
2. **He can declare that the powers of the state legislature are to be exercised by the Parliament.**
3. He can take all other necessary steps including the suspension of the constitutional provisions relating to any body or authority in the state.

148. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

National Emergency can be **declared on the grounds of war, external aggression**, or **armed rebellion**. This is **different from other types of emergencies (Financial Emergency under Article 360** and **President's Rule under Article 356** that can be declared under the Constitution.

Statement 1 is correct: During a **National Emergency**, the **term of the state legislative assemblies can be extended beyond 5 years by the Parliament for a period not exceeding one year at a time and not extending beyond six months** after the **emergency** has **ceased.**

Statement 2 is correct: While a proclamation of national emergency is in operation, the President can modify the constitutional distribution of revenues between the Centre and the states. This means that the President can either reduce or cancel the transfer of finances from Centre to the states. Such modification continues till the end of the financial year in which the Emergency ceases to operate. Also, every such order of the President has to be laid before both the Houses of Parliament.

Statement 3 is incorrect: According to **Article 358, all the freedoms under Article 19 are automatically suspended when a National Emergency is proclaimed on the grounds of war, external aggression,** but not **armed rebellion.** Article 19 is automatically revived after the expiry of the emergency. The 44th Amendment Act brought in the exception for armed rebellion.

Statement 4 is correct: The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 restricted the scope of Article 359 in two ways. Firstly, the President cannot suspend the right to move the Court for the enforcement of fundamental rights guaranteed by Articles 20 to 21. In other words, the right to protection in respect of conviction for offences (Article 20) and the right to life and personal liberty (Article 21) remain enforceable even during emergency. Secondly, only those laws which are related with the emergency are protected from being challenged and not other laws and the executive action taken only under such a law, is protected.

149. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 355 of the Indian Constitution mandates that the **Central government has a duty to ensure** that the government of every **state function in accordance with constitutional provisions.** In case there is a failure of the constitutional machinery in a state, Centre can invoke Article 356. This article, commonly known as 'President's Rule,' empowers the President of India to temporarily take over the governance of the state.

Statement 1 is incorrect: During the President's rule, it's **the Governor on behalf of the President, not the prime minister, who manages the state administration** with the help of the chief secretary of the concerned state or the advisors appointed by the President. The Union Government may oversee and guide this process but does not directly manage state administration.

Statement II is correct: When **President's rule is imposed in a state under Article 356** of the Indian Constitution, the President gains significant powers to ensure the proper governance and administration of the state. Therefore, when the President's Rule is imposed in a state, **the President dismisses the state council of ministers headed by the chief minister.**

150. Solution: (c)

Exp) option c is the correct answer,

The Emergency provisions are contained in Part XVIII of the constitution from Article 352 to 360.

National emergency (Article 352): The President can declare a National Emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion. When a national emergency is declared on the ground of 'war' or 'external aggression', it is known as 'External Emergency'. On the other hand, when it is declared on the ground of 'armed rebellion', it is known as 'Internal Emergency',

Statement 1 is incorrect. The President can proclaim national emergency **only after a written recommendation from the Cabinet and not Council of Ministers.** This safeguard was added by 44th constitutional amendment of 1978 to avoid the possibility of Prime Minister alone taking the decision regarding National emergency.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The proclamation of National emergency must be **approved by special majority of 50% of the total membership and 2/3rd Present and Voting, within 1 month by both the houses of Parliament.** Originally the time for approval was 2 months but it was reduced by 44th Constitutional amendment Act of 1978.

Statement 3 is incorrect. National emergency **can be extended for indefinite period** provided both the houses of the Parliament approves the continuance of National Emergency for every six months by Special Majority which is 50% of the total membership and 2/3rd Present and Voting.

Statement 4 is incorrect. Article 352 mentions:

Proclamation of Emergency.—(1) If the President is satisfied that a grave emergency exists whereby the security of India or of any part of the territory thereof is threatened, whether by war or external aggression or armed rebellion, he may, by Proclamation, make a declaration to that effect in respect of the whole of India or of such part of the territory thereof as may be specified in the Proclamation.

Thus, there is no mention of the word National Emergency.

151. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

Statement 1 is incorrect: The term of the Lok Sabha can be extended during the period of national emergency **by a law of Parliament for one year at a time for any length of time.** However, this extension cannot continue beyond a period of six months after the emergency has ceased to operate.

Statement 2 is correct: The term of the Fifth Lok Sabha which was to expire on 18 March, 1976 was extended by one-year up to 18 March, 1977 by the House of the People (Extension of Duration) Act, 1976. It was extend for a further period of one year up to 18 March, 1978 by the House of the People (Extension of Duration) Amendment Act, 1976. However, the House was dissolved on 18 January, 1977, after having been in existence for a period of five years, ten months and six days.

Statement 3 is correct: During National Emergency, the duration of Lok Sabha can be extended to a maximum of 1 year at a time by passing a law in the Parliament. The term of 5th Lok Sabha was extended twice **by-passing House of the People (extension of duration) Act, 1976. And such a law can be passed by a simple majority.**

152. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 360 empowers the president to proclaim a Financial Emergency if he is satisfied that a situation has arisen due to which the financial stability or credit of India or any part of its territory is threatened. A proclamation declaring financial emergency must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament by a simple majority within two months from the date of its issue. **As per Article 360, no maximum period is prescribed for financial emergency to continue.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: As per Article 360, repeated parliamentary approval is not required for continuation (remaining in force for extended period) of financial emergency which means once approved, financial emergency continues indefinitely till it is revoked.

Statement 3 is correct: A proclamation of Financial Emergency may be revoked by the president at any time by a subsequent proclamation. Such a proclamation does not require parliamentary approval.

153. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

While a proclamation of Emergency is in force, the normal fabric of the Centre-state relations undergoes a basic change. This can be studied under three heads, namely, **executive, legislative and financial.**

Statement 1 is incorrect: During a national emergency, the **executive power** of the Centre extends to directing any state regarding the manner in which its executive power is to be exercised. The Centre becomes entitled to give executive directions to a state on 'any' matter. Thus, the state governments are brought under the complete control of the Centre, **though they are not suspended.**

Statement 2 is correct: While a proclamation of national emergency is in operation, the President can issue ordinances on the state subjects also, if the Parliament is not in session.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The laws made by Parliament on the state subjects during a National Emergency **become inoperative six months after the emergency has ceased to operate.**

154. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The President can take up the functions of the state government and powers vested in the governor or any other executive authority in the state.

Statement 2 is incorrect: A law made by the Parliament or President, or any other specified authority **continues to be operative even after the President's Rule.** This means that the period for which such a law remains in force is not coterminous with the duration of the proclamation. **But it can be repealed or altered or re-enacted by the state legislature.**

155. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

Since 1950, the President's Rule has been imposed on more than 100 occasions, that is, on an average twice a year. Further, on a number of occasions, the President's Rule has been imposed in an arbitrary manner for political or personal reasons. Hence, Article 356 has become one of the most controversial and most criticised provision of the Constitution.

Dr BR Ambedkar, while replying to the critics of **Article 356 (President's rule)** provision in the Constituent Assembly, hoped that the drastic power conferred by Article 356 would remain a **dead-letter'** and would be used only as a measure of last resort. He also said, if the Centre is to interfere in the administration of provincial affairs, it must be under some obligation which the Constitution imposes upon the Centre. The proper thing we ought to expect is that **such Articles will never be called into operation and that they would remain a dead-letter.**

156. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 introduced a new provision to put restraint on the power of Parliament to extend a proclamation of President's Rule beyond one year. Thus, it provided that, beyond one year, the President's Rule can be extended by six months at a time only when the following two conditions are fulfilled:

Statement 1 is correct: a proclamation of National Emergency should be in operation in the whole of India, or in the whole or any part of the state; and

Statement 2 is correct: The Election Commission must certify that the general elections to the legislative assembly of the concerned state cannot be held on account of difficulties.

Statement 3 is incorrect: 44th amendment act of 1978 provides only two conditions for extension of president's rule beyond one year of which **declaring state as a disturbed area (Done under Armed Force Special Power Act 1958) by the central Government is not a valid condition.**

157. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Statement 1 is correct: According to Article 358, when a proclamation of national emergency is made, the **six Fundamental Rights under Article 19 are automatically suspended. So, restrictions can be imposed on the freedom of press.**

Statement 2 is correct: Rights other than the right to protection in respect of conviction for offences (Article 20) and the right to life and personal liberty (Article 21) can be suspended. **Since fair trial is dealt with in article 22, its enforcement can be suspended by the state. Therefore, A person can be arrested without fair trial.**

Statement 3 is correct: Since equality is dealt with in Article 14, its enforcement can also be suspended by the state. Hence State can discriminate among the citizens.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The 44th Amendment, 1978, has provided that Article 21, relating to personal liberty cannot be suspended even during an emergency. In this way personal liberty has been strengthened and the writ of habeas corpus retains its potency even during an emergency.

2.7. Amendment to the Constitution

158. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 368 deals with the cases where consent of half of the states is needed along with a special majority of the Parliament for amending certain constitutional provisions.

Option 1 is incorrect: Article 4 of the Constitution itself declares that laws made for altering the boundaries of states are not to be considered as amendment to the Constitution under Article 368. This implies that such laws can be passed by a simple majority and by the ordinary legislative process of Parliament.

Option 2 is correct: Article 368 specifically mentions that Constitutional amendments regarding representation of States in the Parliament needs consent of at least half of the state legislatures.

Option 3 is incorrect: Any Constitutional amendments in provisions of election of President and its manner require consent of half of the states. However, this requirement is not applicable for making amendments to the election process of the Vice-President.

Option 4 is incorrect: Amendments to the Fundamental Rights contained in Part III of the Constitution can be made with special majority of the Parliament. It does not require the consent of the states.

Option 5 is incorrect: Amendments regarding delimitation of constituencies can be made with simple majority. Neither special majority nor ratification by states is needed for such matters.

Important Tips

Other amendments for which ratification by state legislatures is needed:

1) Extent of executive powers of the Union and the States
2) Distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the States
3) Any of the lists in the VII Schedule
4) Supreme Court and High Courts
5) Power of Parliament to amend Article 368 itself.

159. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Here only two pairs are correctly matched.

Pair 1 is incorrect: It was the 44th Constitutional Amendment Act,1978 that deleted the right to property from the list of Fundamental Rights and made it only a legal right. 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act,1976 also called mini constitution led to addition of new words (socialist, secular and integrity) in preamble, provided for tribunals, added fundamental duties to the constitution.

Pair 2 is correct: 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985 provided for disqualification of members of Parliament and state legislatures on the ground of defection and added a new Tenth Schedule containing the details in this regard.

Pair 3 is correct: 61st Constitutional Amendment Act,1989 Reduced the voting age from 21 years to 18 years for the Lok Sabha and state legislative assembly elections and gave youth rightful participation in electoral politics.

Pair 4 is incorrect: 99th Constitutional Amendment Act,2015 Replaced the collegium system of appointing judges to the Supreme Court and High Courts with a new body called the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC). However, in 2015, the Supreme Court declared this amendment act as unconstitutional and void. The 100th Constitutional Amendment Act,2015 gave effect to the acquiring of certain territories by India and transfer of certain other territories to Bangladesh to settle land boundary disputes.

Important Tips

Some recent Constitutional Amendments

- **101st Constitutional Amendment Act,** 2016 paved the way for the introduction of the goods and services tax (GST) regime in the country.
- **102nd Constitutional Amendment Act,** 2018 conferred a constitutional status on the National Commission for Backward Classes.
- **103rd Constitutional Amendment Act,** 2019 provided reservation of 10% in addition to the existing reservation for economically weaker section of citizens.
- **104th Constitutional Amendment Act,** 2019 ended the reservation of seats for the Anglo-Indians in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies. It also extended the reservations for SCs and STs for up to ten years.
- **105th Constitutional Amendment Act,** 2021 gave state governments power to prepare the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes list.
- **106th Constitutional Amendment Act,** 2023 reserved one-third of seats in the Lok Sabha and state Legislative assemblies.

160. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

In India, the **Constitution** can be **amended** by a **simple majority** of Parliament. This means that **more than half of the total members must be present and vote** in favor of a proposal. The procedure for amending the Constitution is outlined in **Part XX (Article 368).** It differs from the procedure for ordinary legislation.

Option 1 is incorrect: Amending the Constitution to change the method of election of the President would require **a special majority in both houses of Parliament**, as well as the **consent of at least half of the states**. Specifically, any amendment to the provisions related to the election of the President would fall **under Article 54**, which describes the manner of election of the President. Any proposed changes to this article would need to go through the **formal amendment process outlined in Article 368.**

Option 2 is correct: Amending the **Second Schedule** of the Indian Constitution involves **changes related to the emoluments, allowances, privileges**, and other terms and conditions of service of the **President, Vice President, Governors, Judges of the Supreme Court, and High Courts**, as well as the **Comptroller and Auditor General of India**. For amendments related to the Second Schedule of the Indian Constitution, a **simple majority is required** in both houses of Parliament.

Option 3 is correct: Delimitation of constituencies refers to the **process of determining the boundaries of electoral constituencies to ensure that each constituency has a roughly equal population**. This process is crucial for maintaining fairness and representation in the electoral system. Since delimitation affects the electoral boundaries within each state, it doesn't directly impact the federal structure or the powers of the states. Therefore, **amendments related to delimitation typically require a simple majority in Parliament**, rather than the more stringent special majority.

Option 4 is correct: In India, **provisions** relating to the **acquisition** and **termination** of **citizenship** are primarily governed by the **Citizenship Act of 1955**, which can be **amended by Parliament**. However, **amending the Citizenship Act itself would indeed require a simple majority** of the total membership of each house of Parliament.

Option 5 is incorrect: The **Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)** in India are contained in **Part IV** of the Constitution (**Articles 36-51**). These principles are **not legally enforceable by courts** but are **guidelines for the government** to frame policies and laws. **Amending** provisions relating to **Directive Principles of State Policy** would typically **require a special majority** in both houses of Parliament.

Option 6 is correct: The **Sixth Schedule** of the Indian Constitution deals with the **administration of tribal areas in the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram**. Amendments to the provisions relating to the Sixth Schedule would require a **simple majority** in Parliament.

Important Tips

The Constitution of India has three types of amendments –

1. **Amendments by simple majority** – These amendments can be made by a simple majority, which is 50% of the members present and voting. These amendments fall outside the scope of Article 368.

2. **Amendments by special majority** – These amendments are governed by Article 368. This special majority is defined as more than 50% of the total membership of the House and a majority of two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting.
3. **Amendments by special majority with ratification by half the states** – These amendments are also governed by Article 368 which needs a special majority of Parliament plus ratification by half of the states.

Till date, there have been 106 amendments of the Constitution of India since it was first enacted in 1950.

161. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The **Constitution of India** can be **amended** by **introducing a bill in either house of Parliament**. There are **three types of amendments** to the Constitution of India of which second and third type of amendments are governed by **Article 368**.

Statement I is correct: In **2015, India's constitution** underwent **its 100th amendment**. This amendment **formalized a land swap agreement reached with Bangladesh in 1974** (with additional details added in 2011). The **amendment** essentially **allowed** for the **exchange** of certain **territories** between the two nations. This was done through **the exchange of enclaves** and the **retention of property. India received 51 Bangladeshi enclaves**, and **Bangladesh received 111 Indian enclaves**.

Statement II is correct: Unlike changing state boundaries within India, **giving up territory requires a formal amendment to the constitution.**

Statement II is correct and is the correct explanation of statement I :The Supreme Court in a reference made by the President in 1960, famous as **1960 Berubari Union case/ Berubari Reference,** held that **regular legislation isn't enough for cession** (giving up land). The **Supreme Court held that the power of parliament to diminish the areas of the state (under Art 3) do not cover cession of the Indian territory to a foreign country. Hence, Indian territory can be ceded to a foreign state only by amending the constitution under Article 368.**

Important Tips

1. Article 3 of the Indian Constitution allows Parliament to create laws that form new states and alter the areas, boundaries, or names of existing states.
2. Article 3 lays down two conditions –

a. one, a bill contemplating the above changes can be introduced in the Parliament only with the prior recommendation of the President; and

b. two, before recommending the bill, the President has to refer the same to the state legislature concerned for expressing its views within a specified period.

3. Further, the power of Parliament to form new states includes the power to form a new state or union territory by uniting a part of any state or union territory to any other state or union territory.

162. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The 44th Constitutional Amendment Act 1978, sought to reinstate various democratic and constitutional safeguards that had been altered during the Emergency period.

The 44th Amendment Act of 1978, also removed the right to property from the list of fundamental rights in the Indian Constitution. Instead, it designated right to property as a legal right under Article 300-A in Part XII of the Constitution.

Morarji Desai served as Prime Minister of India for 2 years from 1977 to 1979. **The Forty-fourth Amendment of the Constitution of India was enacted during his tenure as Prime Minister. Some provisions under 44th amendment act to restore** the Constitution to its pre-Emergency state include

1. Article 352, the President can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion. the 44th Amendment Act of 1978 substituted the words 'armed rebellion' for 'internal disturbance.
2. The 38th Amendment Act of 1975 made the declaration of a National Emergency immune from judicial review, and this provision was subsequently deleted by the 44th Amendment Act of 1978.

163. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 368 of the Indian Constitution pertains to the power of Parliament to amend the Constitution and the procedure for doing so.

Statement 1 is incorrect: An amendment of the Constitution can be initiated by the introduction of a bill for this purpose in either House of Parliament **without the prior recommendation of the President.** Thus, the introduction of a Constitutional amendment bill in the Parliament doesn't require prior recommendation of President of India.

Statement 2 is correct: A constitutional amendment bill **can be introduced by either a minister or by a private member of Parliament.** Ministers are members of the government who hold specific portfolios and are responsible for proposing and implementing legislation related to their respective ministries. On the other hand, private members of Parliament are individuals who are not part of the government but are elected or nominated members of the Parliament.

Statement 3 is correct: Once a bill is duly passed by both houses of Parliament and presented to the President for assent, the **President must give assent to the bill.** The President is not empowered to withhold assent to the bill or return it for reconsideration by Parliament. The **24th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1971** made it mandatory for the President to give assent to a Constitutional Amendment Bill.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Amendments to the provisions of the Constitution concerning the federal structure of the polity can be made by Parliament with a special majority. Additionally, such amendments necessitate the consent of at least half of the state legislatures, which is obtained through a simple majority

vote in each state legislature. **There is no specified time limit within which the states must provide their consent to the amendment bill.**

Statement 5 is incorrect: The Constitutional amendment process can be initiated by introducing a bill in any of the two houses of Parliament, but not in the state legislatures.

164. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 368 of the Constitution of India says that "Parliament may in exercise of its constituent power amend by way of addition, variation or repeal any provision of this Constitution in accordance with the procedure laid down in this article."

Statement I is incorrect. Some of the articles in the Constitution of India can be amended by a simple majority of the Parliament. No special procedure for amendment is required in such cases and there is no difference at all between an amendment and an ordinary law. **Amendments made under article 3 belong to this category. Article 3 says that "Parliament may by law** form a new State by separation of territory from any State or by uniting two or more States or parts of States or by uniting any territory to a part of any State." The wording 'by law' indicates that these articles can be modified by the Parliament by a simple majority.

Statement II is correct. Article 368 of the Constitution says that a Constitutional amendment bill must be passed in each House by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting.

It further says that **if the bill seeks to amend the federal provisions of the Constitution, it must also be ratified by the legislatures of half of the states by a simple majority.**

Article 368 says that an amendment also require to be ratified by the Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States if it make changes to:

(a) article 54, article 55, article 73, article 162, article 241 or article 279A; or

(b) Chapter IV of Part V, Chapter V of Part VI, or Chapter I of Part XI; or

(c) any of the Lists in the Seventh Schedule; or

(d) the representation of States in Parliament; or

(e) the provisions of this article i.e. article 368.

165. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 368 of the Constitution of India determines the procedure for the amendment of the provisions of the Constitution.

Statement 1 is correct. Under **Article 368**, a **Constitutional Amendment Bill** can only be introduced in **either House of Parliament**—Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha. State Legislatures have no power to initiate or amend the Constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Constitutional Amendment Bill must be passed by **each House of Parliament separately** with a **special majority**—a majority of the total membership of the House and two-thirds of members present and voting. In the case of disagreements, the provision for a **joint sitting** under **Article 108** (applicable to ordinary bills) **does not apply to Constitutional Amendment Bills.**

Statement 3 is correct. An amendment bill goes to the President for his assent. **In case of such bills, the President has no powers to send it back for reconsideration.** The 24th Constitutional Amendment Act made it **compulsory for the President to give his assent to the Constitution amendment bills.**

Statement 4 is incorrect. An amendment bill can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member of the Parliament.

166. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option 1 is correct: Fundamental rights can be amended by a special majority of the Parliament which falls under the provision of Article 368 of the Constitution of India. Thus, adding a clause to Article 13 would require a constitutional amendment under Article 368.

Option 2 is incorrect: Creation or abolition of a Legislative Council in a State can be done by a simple majority (i.e. 50% percent of members present and voting) of the Parliament. The process is similar to a regular legislative process and do not fall under the purview of Article 368 as 'Constitutional Amendments'.

Option 3 is correct: Article 279 A of the Constitution of India provides the membership of GST council. It relates to the federal structure of the polity and can be amended by a special majority of the Parliament and also with the consent of half of the state legislatures by a simple majority. Thus, it falls under the provision of Article 368 of the Constitution of India.

167. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement-I is correct: Sikkim, a former princely state in northeastern India, was ruled by the Namgyal dynasty of Chogyals (priestkings) from 1642 to 1975. **In 1817, Sikkim became a British protectorate. After India gained independence in 1947, Sikkim became a "protectorate" of India,** with the Indian government assuming responsibility for its defence, external affairs, and communications. In 1950, the Indo-Sikkimese Treaty was signed, which increased popular participation in Sikkim's government. **The 35th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1974, conferred on Sikkim the status of an "associate state" of the Indian Union.** In 1975, a referendum was held in which the Sikkimese people voted overwhelmingly to abolish the monarchy and become an integral part of India. The **36th Constitutional Amendment, 1976 was then enacted, making Sikkim the 22nd state of the Indian Union.**

- The amendment also added a new Article 371F to the Constitution, providing for certain special provisions with respect to the administration of Sikkim.

Statement-II is incorrect: Article 2 of the Constitution of India **provides for admission or establishment of new States**

into the Indian union by Parliament by law. It also gives Parliament the power to admit or establish new States on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit. This **power lies solely with the Parliament** and State Legislatures have no role to play in this matter. The **admission or establishment of new States** into the Indian union **can be amended by a simple majority of the two houses of Parliament outside the scope of Article 368.** For instance, the establishment of Sikkim as a full-fledged state in 1975, etc.

168. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option 1 is correct: The **52nd Amendment, 1985, introduced the anti-defection provisions and added the 10th Schedule** to the Indian Constitution to discourage political defections and to bring stability to governments. It introduced clause (2) in Articles 102 and 191 which declared that the legislators (MP/ MLA/ MLC) shall be disqualified if s/he is declared disqualified under the 10th Schedule.

Option 2 is incorrect: The 61st Constitutional Amendment Act, 1989 was enacted to lower the voting age from 21 years to 18 years for elections to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies. It did not contain any provision related to the anti-defection law.

Option 3 is correct: The **91st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003** eliminated the provision in the Tenth Schedule that allowed exemption from disqualification in case of a split by one-third of the members of a legislature party, thereby removing protection for defectors. Originally, a 'defection' by one-third of a political party's elected members was recognized as a 'merger'. However, the 91st Amendment **altered this requirement to a minimum of two-thirds of the party's members to endorse a "merger" for it to be legally recognized.**

169. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 368 of the Indian Constitution empowers Parliament to amend the Constitution by addition, variation, or repeal, following the procedure outlined in the article. Among the 106 amendments made since its enactment, the 42nd Constitutional Amendment of 1976, often called the "Mini-Constitution," stands out as a significant change. Passed during the Emergency (1975–1977) under Indira Gandhi's Congress government, it brought extensive modifications to the Constitution.

Statement 1 is correct: 42nd Constitutional Amendment amended **Article 83(1) and article 172(1) for state legislature term of Indian Constitution** to extend the **normal term of the House of the People and State Legislative Assemblies from five to six years respectively**. However, this was later reversed by the 44th Amendment Act in 1978.

Statement 2 is correct: The **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976**, introduced **Article 144A** to the Constitution, providing special provisions for determining the constitutional validity of laws. According to this amendment: (i) A minimum of **seven Judges of the Supreme Court must sit to decide the constitutional validity of any Central or State law.** (ii) A law can only be declared constitutionally invalid if at least two-thirds of the Judges hearing the case concur in declaring it invalid

Statement 3 is correct: The **42nd Amendment** introduced **Part IV-A**, adding **ten Fundamental Duties** under **Article 51A** of the Indian Constitution. These duties remind citizens that alongside enjoying their rights, they have responsibilities to uphold and contribute to the nation's well-being.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The Right to Property which was recognised as one of the fundamental rights **was removed from Part III and made a legal right** (Article 300A) through the 44th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1978, **not the 42nd Amendment.**

170. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The 26th Amendment to the Constitution in 1971 formally and finally abolished privy purses. Article 363A was inserted in the constitution of India by the 26th constitutional amendment act of 1971. It stated that the provision of rulership, privy purses, and titles are not in accordance with a healthy opined social order and are not compatible with the idea of an egalitarian society.

At the time of India's independence in 1947, the country consisted of 555 princely states, which made up nearly half of its territory and covered 28% of its population. The integration of these states into the Union of India was chiefly orchestrated by V.P. Menon and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. In return for their accession, the former rulers were provided with Privy Purses—a tax-free allowance—as compensation for the revenues they relinquished. These Privy Purses were set approximately at one-fourth of what the rulers used to earn before independence.

171. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is correct: Parliament has the authority to either **abolish an existing Legislative Council or**

establish (under Article 169) one where it does not currently exist after the Legislative Assembly of the relevant state passes a resolution with a special majority in favour. Such changes made by the Parliament **do not amount to a Constitutional Amendment under Article 368 and are enacted as regular legislation with a simple majority i.e.** Passed in each House of the Parliament by a majority of the total members present and voting of that House.

Pair 2 is incorrect: As per the Article 368 of the Constitution of India, any provisions of Article 368 itself can be amended by a Constitutional amendment bill Passed in each House of the Parliament by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting and to be ratified by the Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States by resolution to that effect passed by those Legislatures.

Pair 3 is correct: The procedure for the election of the President of India is detailed in Article 54 and Article 55 of the Constitution. It involves an indirect election, where the elected members of both houses of Parliament and the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of States and Union Territories vote to elect the President. **The process for the election of the President can be amended by a Special Majority of Parliament, but the consent of states is also required in this case i.e.** Passed in each House of the Parliament by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting and to be ratified by the Legislatures of not less than one-half of the States by resolution to that effect passed by those Legislatures.

172. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The One Hundred and Sixth Amendment Act, 2023, popularly known as the **Women's Reservation Bill,** is a significant step towards increasing women's representation in Indian politics.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Act reserves **33% (one-third)** of the seats, in the **Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies and the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi**. There is no constitutional provision for reservation of any kind (including reservation for women) in the Rajya Sabha or State Legislative Councils.

Statement 2 is correct. The Act specifies that the reservation for women will be in place for **15 years** from the date of its implementation. It shall continue till such date as determined by law made by parliament.

Statement 3 is correct. The Act explicitly mentions that the reserved seats will be subject to **rotation after every delimitation** exercise (which adjusts the boundaries and allocation of constituencies based on population changes). This ensures that no single constituency remains permanently reserved, thereby promoting equitable representation.

173. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement I is correct. The **seventh Constitutional Amendment Act** reorganized states on a linguistic basis and abolished the earlier categories of Part A, Part B, Part C, and Part D states.

It created a **unified system of states and Union Territories.**

Statement II is correct. The States Reorganization Commission **(SRC)** laid the foundation for India's current administrative structure, suggesting a distinction between states and **Union Territories.**

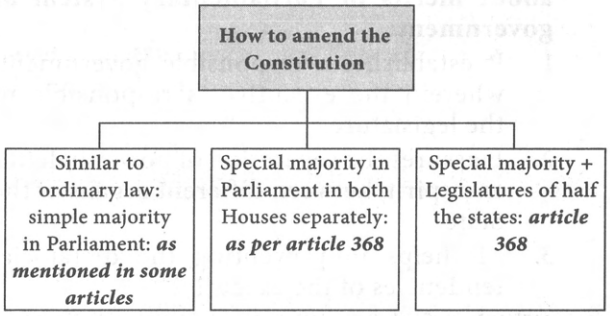
According to the State Reorganisation Commission, the component units of the Indian Union should thus consist of two categories: (a) "States" forming primary federating units of the Indian Union; and (b) "territories" which are centrally administered. This classification addressed governance needs for regions that could not function effectively as independent states.

Statement II is the correct explanation for statement I. The Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act, 1956, was enacted to implement the recommendations of the **States Reorganization Commission (SRC).** Thus, it officially declared several regions as **Union Territories.**

174. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 368 of the Indian Constitution provides for different methods of amendments of constitution.



Some provisions of the Constitution which are related to the federal structure of the polity can only be amended by a special majority of the Parliament and also with the consent of half of the state legislatures by a simple majority.

Provisions that require ratification by the states include such as:

1. the election of President,
2. Supreme Court and High Courts,
3. representation of states in Parliament,
4. distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the states, and
5. the extent of executive power of the Union and the states.
6. amendment to Article 368 itself requires ratification by the states etc.

For example, the 99th Amendment constitutional Act Established the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) for the appointment of Supreme Court judges. It was passed after the ratification of half of the states. (Although, the Constitution Bench (4:1 Majority) of the Supreme Court declared the 99th Constitutional Amendment and National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) unconstitutional on the ground that it violates the Basic Structure of the Constitution of India.)

175. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 368 provides that when a Constitutional Amendment Bill is presented to the President then 's/he shall give his/her assent'. This implies that it is mandatory for the President to give his/her assent to the Constitutional Amendment Bill passed by both the Houses of the Parliament. S/he can neither withhold his/her assent nor can return the bill to Parliament for reconsideration. The 24th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1971 made it mandatory for the President to give assent to the Constitutional Amendment Bill.

INDIAN POLITY AND GOVERNANCE

SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT

3.1. Parliamentary System

1. Consider the following statements about merits of Parliamentary System of government:

1. It establishes a responsible government, wherein the executive is responsible to the legislature.
2. It assures the separation of power in letter and spirit, between different organs of the State.
3. It helps in preventing the dictatorial tendencies of the executive.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

2. The makers of the Indian Constitution adopted a parliamentary system of government in India. Which of the following correctly explains the reason/ reasons behind this?

1. India already had an experience of running the parliamentary system during British rule.
2. This system ensures the complete separation of powers between different organs of the Government.
3. The parliamentary system provides a more stable government than the presidential system.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

3. With reference to the Indian and British Parliamentary System, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Both the Indian and British Parliamentary systems are based on Doctrine of the Sovereignty of Parliament.
2. In both the systems, the Prime Minister must be from the lower house of Parliament.
3. Britain has the system of legal responsibility of the ministers, while India has no such system.
4. Both the systems have an elected Head of the State.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 3 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

4. Consider the following elements of a democratic polity:

1. Presence of nominal and real executives
2. Dissolution of the lower house of the legislature
3. Collective responsibility of Council of ministers to the Parliament
4. Membership of ministers in legislature

How many of the elements mentioned above are present in a Parliamentary form of government but not in the Presidential form of government in general?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

3.2. Federal System

5. Which of the following is not a correct reason behind the adoption of the federal system of government in India?

(a) To take into consideration the large size of the country.
(b) To accommodate the large socio-cultural diversity of India.
(c) To provide equal representation for all the states in Parliament.
(d) To reconcile national unity with regional autonomy of the states.

6. The framers of the Indian Constitution adopted a Federal system for India. In this context consider the following:

1. Written Constitution.
2. Supremacy of the Constitution.
3. Flexibility of the Constitution.

4. Independent Judiciary.
5. Bicameral legislature

How many of the above are Federal features of the Indian Constitution?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

7. Which of the following statements is correct with regard to the Asymmetric Federalism in India?

(a) It establishes the Central Government as the superior decision-making entity over the states.
(b) It allows varied degrees of autonomy and powers among different states.
(c) The spirit of asymmetric federalism is violated by Article 371A of the Constitution.
(d) It has contributed to the large-scale marginalization of the minorities in India.

8. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: India follows asymmetrical type of federalism in its political system.

Statement II: Some states in India enjoy a special status under Indian Constitution.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

9. Why does the Indian Constitution term India as a 'Union of states' rather than a 'Federation of states'?

(a) India operates under a single written Constitution that applies to both the Central and State Governments.
(b) No State in India can make decisions concerning foreign relations.
(c) None of the Indian states possesses the authority to secede from the Indian Union.
(d) India adheres to the principle of a single citizenship.

10. With respect to Article 1 of the Indian Constitution, which of the following statements is correct regarding the distinction between the "Territory of India" and the "Union of India"?

(a) "Territory of India" encompasses acquired territory, states, and Union Territories (UTs), whereas "Union of India" includes states only.
(b) "Territory of India" covers territorial waters, whereas "Union of India" excludes them.
(c) Unlike the "Territory of India," the "Union of India" includes only territories directly administered by the Union Government.
(d) "Territory of India" includes only the States while 'Union of India' encompasses both States and Union Territories.

11. With reference to the State Reorganisation Commission, consider the following statements:

1. It was headed by the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.
2. It formally rejected language as the basis for reorganisation of states.
3. It proposed the welfare of the people in each State as one of the basis for reorganisation of States.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

12. With reference to Union of India, consider the following Assertion (A) and Reason (R):

Assertion (A): India is called as an indestructible union of destructible states.

Reason (R): The Central government can initiate the Constitutional Amendment without the State government's consent.

Which of the following options given below is correct?

(a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
(c) A is true but R is false
(d) A is false but R is true.

13. Consider the following states in India:

1. Manipur
2. Uttarakhand

3. Haryana
4. Mizoram

Which one of the following is the correct chronological order of the states according to the year of their formation?

(a) 1-3-2-4
(b) 3-4-1-2
(c) 1-4-3-2
(d) 3-1-4-2

14. India is sometimes described as a federation with a centralising tendency. Which among the following provisions of the Constitution of India provide/s this centralising tendency to Indian federation?

1. Written Constitution
2. Independent judiciary
3. Single citizenship
4. Governments at national, provincial and local levels

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 and 4 only

3.3. Centre-State Relations

15. As per the 7th Schedule of the Constitution of India, which of the following pairs of different Lists and their Contents is/are correctly matched?

1. State List: Public health and sanitation
2. Union List: Citizenship, naturalization and aliens
3. Concurrent List: Legal, medical and other professions

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

16. According to the Constitution, in which of the following matters is the Centre empowered to give directions to the states with regard to the exercise of their executive power?

1. Construction and maintenance of means of communication declared to be of national or military importance.
2. Drawing up and execution of the specified schemes for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes in the state.
3. Measures to be taken for the protection of the railways within the state.
4. Devolution of financial powers to local governments to enable them to function as units of self-government.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

17. A State law made upon the subjects mentioned in the Concurrent list shall prevail over Union laws under which of the following circumstances?

1. If law made by the State legislature reserved for the consideration of the President and received his/her assent.
2. If the law made by the State legislature aims to give effect to the provisions of fundamental rights.
3. If the Supreme court of India directed states to make laws on the subject enumerated in the concurrent list.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

18. Executive power relating to the concurrent list normally remains with the state government instead of the Union government, except in a few cases. In this context, which of the following are those conditions/cases, where the executing power related subject in concurrent list remains with Union Government?

1. When a law on a concurrent subject is enacted by the Parliament, then it will be executed by the Centre only.
2. If the State Legislative Assembly authorises the Union government to exercise executive power over a law made on a concurrent subject.

Which of the statement/s given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

19. In which of the following circumstances, Parliament can make laws on the subjects enumerated in the state lists?

1. If the legislative assembly of two or more states by simple majority passes a resolution recommending Parliament to make laws on the state subjects.
2. To implement the provisions of the Fundamental Duties.
3. If Rajya Sabha passes a resolution for the same supported by two-thirds of members present and voting.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

20. To protect the interest of States in the financial matters, which of the following provisions were laid down by the Constitution of India?

1. A bill which varies any tax in which states are interested can be introduced in the Parliament only after consulting the State governments.
2. The Parliament can alter the definition of agricultural income only on the recommendation of the President.
3. A bill introduced in Parliament affecting the vertical distribution of taxes between centre and states can be introduced only on the recommendation of the Finance commission.
4. A bill that imposes any surcharge on tax for the purpose of the centre can be introduced in the Parliament only on the recommendation of the President.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

21. With reference to financial relations between the Centre and States, consider the following statements:

1. While the central government can borrow anywhere within India, the state governments can borrow only within the boundaries of the concerned state.
2. Normally a state cannot raise any loan without the consent of the centre.
3. The loans given to states by centre are charged on the consolidated fund of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

22. With reference to consequences of emergency provisions on the legislative relations between centre and states, consider the following statements:

1. Upon proclamation of National emergency, the state legislatures are prohibited to make laws on matters related to state lists.
2. Laws made by the Parliament will continue to be operative even after revocation of the President's rule.
3. Upon proclamation of President's rule, generally the legislative power of states will be exercised by the President of India.
4. Upon proclamation of financial emergency, legislative power of states related to financial matters will be exercised by the Parliament.

Which of the statement/s given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1,3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 2 only

23. With reference to executive relations between centre and states as given in constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. The Governor of a state, with the consent of the central government, can delegate executive functions of state to centre.
2. The parliament can delegate executive functions of central government to states, without the consent of states.
3. State legislature can delegate executive functions of state to centre.

Which of the statement/s given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1,2 and 3

24. Under the constitution of India which of the following taxes are levied, collected and retained by the state governments?

1. Surcharge on tax
2. Land revenue
3. Entertainment tax
4. Professional taxes.
5. Any cess levied for the specific purpose
6. Taxes on goods carried by inland waterways.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 3 and 6 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3, 4 and 6 only
(d) 1, 4 and 6 only

25. With reference to "Discretionary grants", consider the following statements:

1. It is called discretionary grants because there is no constitutional obligation for the centre to give these grants to states.
2. States can make these grants only for those public purposes which are within their legislative jurisdictions.
3. Centre allots these grants to states based only on the recommendation of the Finance commission.

Which of the statement/s given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

26. Consider the following statements with reference to administrative relations between Centre and State:

1. Under article 365 of the Constitution of India, the President's rule can be imposed in a state if it fails to comply with any directions given by the Centre.
2. The President cannot entrust executive functions of Union to the states without the consent of states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

27. Zonal Councils are created for healthy inter-State and Centre-State relationship and fostering balanced socio-economic development of the respective zones. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. Zonal councils are set up under the state reorganization act, 1956.
2. The prime minister is the chairman of all the zonal councils.
3. Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand are part of the Northern Zonal council.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

28. In the context of administrative relations between the Centre and states, consider the following regarding the Full Faith and Credit clause of the Constitution:

1. public acts
2. public records
3. Judicial proceedings

Full faith and credit is given throughout the territory of India to how many of the above?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

29. In the context of Distribution of Revenues between the Union and the States, consider the following statements:

1. The "net proceedings" regarding a tax or duty shall be ascertained and certified by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.
2. A bill varying the meaning of the expression 'Agricultural-income' can only be introduced on the recommendation of the President of India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

30. With respect to the borrowing by the Centre and the states in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution mandates every state to take permission from the Centre for every borrowing.

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2. Limits for borrowing by the centre are fixed by Parliament.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

31. The Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution contains three Lists of subjects. In this context, consider the following subjects:

1. Bankruptcy and insolvency
2. Prevention of cruelty to animals
3. Trade unions
4. Electricity
5. Taxes on agricultural income
6. Inter-State quarantine

How many of the above subjects are part of the concurrent list under the seventh schedule?

(a) Only three
(b) Only four
(c) Only five
(d) All six

32. Which one of the following statements is *incorrect* regarding Zonal Councils in India?

(a) They are statutory bodies formed through the States Reorganization Act of 1956.
(b) All the Zonal Councils are chaired by the union home minister.
(c) Each chief minister of respective state acts as a vice-chairman of the council by rotation.
(d) They can act as an adjudicatory body in the matter of inter-state dispute.

33. Consider the following pairs:

Subject	Associated List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution
1. Betting and gambling	Union List
2. Marriage and divorce	State List
3. Inter-State Quarantine	Concurrent List

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

34. Consider the following recommendations:

1. The Governor should be a person of eminence from outside the state and should not have been actively involved in politics in recent years.
2. The State Legislative Assembly should not be dissolved unless the proclamation under Article 356 is approved by Parliament.
3. The Chief Minister should be consulted before the appointment of the Governor.

Which one of the following commissions/ committees made above recommendations?

(a) First Administrative Reforms Commission (1966)
(b) Rajamannar Committee (1969)
(c) Sarkaria Commission (1983)
(d) National Commission to Review the Working of the Constitution (2000)

35. Consider the following statements regarding financial relations between Centre and State in India:

1. Only State Governments can levy tax on agricultural income.
2. Unless it is permitted by the Parliament, States cannot impose tax on the electricity consumed by the Government of India.

Which of the statements given above are is/ correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

36. With reference to Special Category Status (SCS) states in India, consider the following statements:

1. It was introduced based on the recommendations of the Fifth Finance Commission.
2. The Central government provides 90% assistance for repayment of loans for the Externally Aided Projects (EAPs) for the states with SCS.
3. Andhra Pradesh is the most recent state to be granted Special Category Status.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

37. Consider the following statements about the legislative relations between the Centre and the states in India:

1. Only the Parliament has the power to make laws on subjects that are not mentioned in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.
2. The states need prior permission from the President of India for making law on any subject mentioned in the concurrent list of the seventh schedule.

Which of the statements given above is/are **incorrect?**

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

38. With reference to different types of grants given to the states, which of the following statements is correct?

(a) Statutory Grants are a fixed amount given to each state as decided in the Budget of each financial year.
(b) Discretionary Grants are given for raising the level of administration of the scheduled areas in a state only.
(c) Statutory Grants under Article 275 are given to the states on the recommendation of the Finance Commission.
(d) Discretionary Grants need to be approved by the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament before it can be voted on by the Lok Sabha.

39. With reference to Indian polity, consider the following bills:

1. A bill imposing any tax or duty in which states are interested.
2. A bill to appoint an appropriate authority for freedom of inter-state trade
3. A bill which affects the principles on which moneys are distributable to states
4. A bill imposing any surcharge on any specified tax for the purpose of the Centre

How many of the above bills can be introduced in the Parliament only on the recommendation of the President?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

40. Legal disputes between the Centre and the states or between different states are primarily resolved by?

(a) Supreme Court of India
(b) High Courts
(c) The President of India
(d) Prime Minister's Office

41. With reference to the impact of a National Emergency on Centre-State relations, consider the following statements:

1. The central government can issue executive directions to any state on any matter during a National Emergency.
2. Parliament can make laws on any subjects mentioned in the State List
3. The President can modify the constitutional distribution of revenues between the Centre and states.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

42. Seventh Schedule of Indian Constitution provides for division of legislative powers between the Centre and the States through three lists viz. Union List, Concurrent List and State List. In this context, consider the following pairs:

Subject	The power to make laws is vested in
1. Land	Only the Parliament
2. Education	Only the State Legislatures
3. Posts and telegraphs	Both the Parliament and the State Legislatures

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

43. In which of the following situations would the imposition of President's Rule be constitutionally justified as per the Supreme Court's interpretation of Article 356 in S. R. Bommai vs. Union of India (1994) ?

1. When there is maladministration or allegations of corruption in the state government.

2. When a duly elected state government adopts policies that are anti-secular in nature.
3. When the government of a state wilfully refuses to discharge its constitutional obligations, endangering the security of the state.
4. When a party resigns following its defeat in the assembly and no other party is willing or able to form a government with majority support in the assembly.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

44. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: Only the Parliament of India can enact laws that apply beyond the territorial boundaries of India.

Statement II: The Constitution grants Parliament exclusive authority to legislate on residuary subjects.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I.
(b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I.
(c) Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
(d) Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.

45. Consider the following statements:
1. A fixed tenure of five years for the Governor of a state
2. A concrete mechanism for resolving interstate boundary disputes in a fair and timely manner
3. Abolition of All India services

Which of the above were the recommendations of Punchhi Commission on Centre-State relations?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

46. With reference to the division of powers between the Centre and the States, consider the following statements:
1. The states do not have the power to dismiss or remove the officers of the All-India Services from service.
2. Only the Parliament has the power to restrict or abrogate the fundamental rights of the armed forces.

Which of the statements given below is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

47. With reference to the President's rule under Article 356 of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:
1. It can only be imposed if a state fails to comply with or to give effect to directions issued by the Central Government in exercise of their executive power.
2. President's rule can be extended for six-months at a time, up to a maximum of three years with the approval of Parliament.
3. imposition of the President's rule in a state results in removal of the state Council of Ministers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

3.4. Inter-State Relations

48. With reference to the River Boards Act, 1956 and 'River Boards' in India, consider the following statements:
1. The River Boards Act, 1956 was enacted under the provisions of Article 262 of the Constitution.
2. A River Board can be established by the state government after obtaining the permission from the President.
3. One of the objectives of the boards is to prepare schemes for the purpose of regulating an inter-state river.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

49. With reference to the 'Northeastern Council', consider the following statements:

1. It is constituted by the President under the article 263 of the Constitution.
2. It falls under the administrative jurisdiction of the Ministry of Development of the Northeastern Region.
3. The Governors of all the eight north eastern states are the members of the council.
4. Presently, the Union Home Minister acts as ex-officio Chairman of the Northeastern Council.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2 and 4 only

50. With reference to 'Inter-State Council', consider the following statements:

1. As per the Constitution, only the Parliament of India is empowered to define the duties of an inter-state council.
2. Janata Dal Government established the Inter-State Council in 1990 on the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission.
3. The council is a recommendatory body that is empowered to investigate and discuss subjects of common interest between Centre and states.
4. All the questions in the council are decided by consensus.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

51. With reference to 'Interstate and Intrastate trade & commerce', consider the following statements:

1. The subject of 'Inter-state trade and commerce' is mentioned in the concurrent list under Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.
2. Parliament can impose restrictions on the freedom of trade within a state in the public interest.
3. A bill to impose restrictions on the freedom of trade within a state can be introduced in the state legislature only with the previous sanction of the President.
4. Parliament can appoint an appropriate authority for carrying out the constitutional provisions relating to the freedom of trade in the country.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 2 and 4 only

52. Consider the following statements with reference to Interstate Water Disputes in India:

1. The Inter State Water Disputes Act, 1956 was enacted in accordance with Article 262 of the Constitution.
2. The President may prevent the Supreme Court or any other court from exercising jurisdiction in respect of any Interstate Water Disputes.
3. 'Water' is a Union list subject.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

53. Consider the following statements with reference to inter-state river disputes:

Statement-I: Parliament has enacted the River Boards Act, 1956, to promote integrated and optimum development of the waters of inter-State rivers and river valleys.

Statement-II: Article 262 of the Constitution of India empowers the Parliament to enact a law for the Adjudication of disputes relating to waters of inter-State rivers or river valleys.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-1 is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

54. Consider the following statements regarding the Inter-State Council in India:

1. It is a constitutional body, established under Article 263 of the Constitution.
2. It is chaired by the Prime Minister of India.
3. The Chief Ministers of all the states are its members.
4. Its nature of duties, organization and procedure are decided by Parliament.
5. Its recommendations are binding on the Centre and the states.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

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SOLUTIONS

3.1. Parliamentary System

1. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

The Constitution of India provides for a parliamentary form of government, both at the centre and in the states. Articles 74 and 75 deal with the parliamentary system at the centre and Articles 163 and 164 in the states.

Statement 1 is correct: Dr. B.R Ambedkar pointed out in the Constituent Assembly that, "a democratic executive must satisfy two conditions i.e., Stability and Responsibility. Unfortunately, it has not been possible so far to devise a system which can provide both in equal degree. The American Constitution gives more stability but less responsibility. The British System gives more responsibility but less stability". **So, the Draft Constitution had preferred more responsibility over stability**'. Responsible government is ensured by making ministers accountable to Parliament for their actions. It can be attained by tools like question hour, parliamentary debates, various motions like adjournment and no confidence motion.

Statement 2 is incorrect: In a parliamentary form of government, **the executive is not separated from the legislature as the members of the council of ministers are members of the legislature.** Hence, the whole system of the government goes against the letter and spirit of the theory of separation of power. **In fact, there is a fusion of power.**

Statement 3 is correct: Parliamentary system **prevents despotism**. Under this system, the executive authority is vested in a group of individuals (council of ministers) and not in a single person. **This dispersal of authority checks the dictatorial tendencies of the executive.** Moreover, the executive is responsible to the Parliament and can be removed by a no-confidence motion.

2. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. The makers of the Indian Constitution adopted a parliamentary system of government as India already had some experience of running the parliamentary system under the Acts of 1919 and 1935. This experience had shown that in the parliamentary system, the executive

can be effectively controlled by the representatives of the people.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Doctrine of Separation of Power ensures that the power is divided between the various organs of the Government. It ensures the separation of powers between the executive, the Judiciary and the legislature.

The parliamentary system promotes cooperation and coordination between different organs of the Government. In a Parliamentary democracy, the executive is responsible to the legislature for all its policies and actions. It thus establishes a responsible government. The ministers are responsible to the Parliament for all their acts of omission and commission. The Parliament exercises control over the ministers through various devices.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The parliamentary system provides a less stable government than the presidential system. This is due to the uncertainty of the tenure of the government. A government can be removed if the legislature passes a motion of no-confidence.

3. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Even though the Indian parliamentary system is largely based on the British pattern, there are some fundamental differences between the two.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The British system is based on the doctrine of the sovereignty of Parliament, while the Parliament is not supreme in India and enjoys limited and restricted powers due to a written Constitution, federal system, judicial review and fundamental rights.

Statement 2 is incorrect: In Britain, the **Prime Minister** should be a **member of the Lower House (House of Commons)** of the Parliament. **In India,** the Prime Minister may be a **member of any of the two Houses** of Parliament. Usually, the members of Parliament alone are appointed as ministers in Britain. In India, a person who is not a member of Parliament can also be appointed as minister, but for a maximum period of six months.

Statement 3 is correct: In India, there is no legal responsibility of the minister. While Britain has the system of legal responsibility of the minister. Unlike in Britain, the ministers in India are not required to countersign the official acts of the Head of the State.

Statement 4 is incorrect: India has a republican system in place of British monarchical system. In other words, the **Head of the State in India (that is, President) is elected,** while the **Head of the State in Britain (that is, King or Queen) enjoys a hereditary position.**

4. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Democratic governments are often classified into parliamentary and presidential systems based on the nature of the relationship between the executive branch (government) and the legislative branch (parliament or congress). A parliamentary form of government is a system in which the executive branch derives its legitimacy from and is accountable to the legislature. Whereas in a presidential system, the executive (President) is elected separately from the legislature and serves a fixed term.

Option 1 is correct: In a parliamentary system, the head of state serves as the nominal executive, while the head of government, also known as the real executive, holds the

actual governing power. For instance, in India, President is the nominal executive whereas the Prime Minister is the real executive. In a presidential system, the President serves as both the head of state and the head of government, consolidating both roles into one individual.

Option 2 is correct: In a parliamentary system, the Prime Minister or the head of government can advise the head of state to **dissolve the lower house of the legislature** (e.g., Loksabha in India and the House of Commons in the UK). In a presidential system, the President does not have the power to dissolve the legislature. Elections for the legislative branch are held on fixed terms.

Option 3 is correct: In a parliamentary system, the Council of Ministers, including the Prime Minister, is **collectively responsible to the parliament.** If the parliament passes a vote of no confidence, the entire government must resign. In a presidential system, while individual members of the executive branch may be subject to congressional oversight, there is no collective responsibility to the legislature in the same manner as in a parliamentary system.

Option 4 is correct: In a parliamentary system, it is common for **ministers, including the Prime Minister, to be members of the legislature** (e.g., MPs in the UK, MPs in India). This allows for direct accountability to the legislature. In a presidential system, ministers are not required to be members of the legislature. They are appointed by the President and do not necessarily hold a legislative position.

3.2. Federal System

5. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option a and b are correct: The Constitution of India provides for a federal system of government in the country. The framers of the Constitution adopted the federal system due to two main reasons- **the large size of the country and its socio-cultural diversity.**

Option c is incorrect: The Indian Constitution does not provide equal representation to the states in Parliament especially in the Rajya Sabha, unlike in the US. **Hence, this unequal state representation is a unitary feature of the Parliament and not the federal feature.**

Option d is correct: The framers propounded that the federal system not only ensures efficient governance but also reconciles **national unity with regional autonomy for the states.**

6. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Constitution of India provides for a federal system of government in the country. The farmers adopted the federal system due to two main reasons–the large size of the country and its sociocultural diversity.

Following are the **Federal features of Indian Constitution**:

1) **Written Constitution:** The Constitution is not only a written document but also the lengthiest Constitution of the world. It specifies the structure, organization, powers and functions of both the Central and state governments and prescribes the limits within which they must operate. Thus, it avoids the misunderstandings and disagreements between the two. **Option 1 is correct.**
2) **Supremacy of the Constitution:** The Constitution is the supreme law of the land. The laws enacted by the Centre and the states must conform to its provisions. Otherwise, they can be declared invalid by the Supreme Court or the high courts through their power of judicial review. Thus, the organs of the government (legislative, executive and judicial) at both the levels must operate within the jurisdiction prescribed by the Constitution. **Option 2 is correct.**
3) **Independent Judiciary:** The Constitution establishes an independent judiciary headed by the Supreme Court for two purposes: one, to protect the supremacy of the Constitution by exercising the power of judicial review; and two, to settle the disputes between the Centre and the states or between the states. **Option 4 is correct.**
4) **Bicameralism:** The Constitution provides for a bicameral legislature consisting of an Upper House (Rajya Sabha) and a Lower House (Lok Sabha). The Rajya Sabha represents the states of Indian Federation, while the Lok Sabha represents the people of India as a whole. **Option 5 is correct.**

Option 3 is incorrect. Flexibility of the constitution is a Unitary feature, while in the Federal State constitution it is rigid. The process of constitutional amendment in India is less rigid than what is found in other federations. The bulk of the Constitution can be amended by the unilateral action of the Parliament, either by simple majority or by special majority. Further, the power to initiate an amendment to the Constitution lies only with the Centre. In the USA, the states can also propose an amendment to the Constitution.

7. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

In asymmetric federalism, different regions or states within a country have varying degrees of autonomy and special arrangements. Some regions have more powers and unique privileges, while others have powers defined by a common federal framework.

Option a is incorrect. In a **unitary system, the central or national government holds significant authority and power.** It is the primary decision-making entity, and regional or local governments derive their powers from the central government.

Option b is correct. Asymmetric federalism in India is characterized by varying degrees of autonomy and powers among different states. Some states enjoy unique privileges or autonomy, while others have powers as defined by the Constitution.

Option c is incorrect. Article 371A grants special provisions and autonomy to the state of Nagaland. **It is an example of asymmetric federalism,** where specific states or regions

within the federal system are given unique privileges and arrangements based on historical and regional factors.

Option d is incorrect. Asymmetric federalism in India is driven by historical, cultural, and regional diversity. It seeks to address the unique needs and demands of various regions within the federal framework. Asymmetrical Federalism **helps ensure that these minority groups are not marginalized** by giving more power and autonomy to regions where certain minority groups are concentrated.

8. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Federalism in India refers to the distribution of power and responsibilities between the central government and the individual states or territories within the country. The **Constitution of India does not use the term "federation"** but instead describes India as a "Union of States".

Statement I is correct: India follows **asymmetric federalism** in its political system. Asymmetric federalism is a framework that recognizes the distinctive cultural differences in the country and permits self-rule within the scheme of a shared rule to territorially concentrated minorities. This means that different states in India have different levels of autonomy and powers, and not all states have the same powers or status.

Statement II is correct and explains statement I: Some states in India enjoy a special status under the Indian Constitution. For instance, Part XXI of the Indian Constitution **provides for special provisions for some states such as Nagaland, Mizoram, and Arunachal Pradesh.**

9. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

While India has a **federal structure** i.e., **two tiers of Government at Central and State level**, the framers of the Constitution preferred to refer to India as a Union of States rather than the Federation of States.

Option a is incorrect: Unlike in the United States, where States often have their own separate constitution the use of a **single, written Constitution** for both the Central (Union) Government and the State Governments is a distinctive feature of a federal system in India. It is **considered a Unitary feature of India, but this is not the reason why India is termed as 'Union of States'.**

Option b is incorrect: In India, foreign relations are an exclusive jurisdiction of the Central Government. Although this does establish the **Central government's supremacy over the State governments**, it's important to note that this is not the primary reason India is referred to as the 'Union of States.'

Option c is correct: Article 1 of the Indian Constitution characterizes **India as a 'Union of States,'** signifies **two key points** and they are:

1) **The Indian Federation isn't formed through an agreement between the States.**
2) **No state possesses the right to secede from India.**

Thus, none of the Indian states possesses the authority to secede from the Indian Union is the reason why India is termed as Union of States rather than the Federation of States.

Option d is incorrect: India follows the principle of a **single citizenship meaning that all Indian citizens, regardless of their state of residence, have the same Indian citizenship.** This is in contrast to the Federation of the United States of America where states may grant their residents separate state citizenship in addition to national citizenship. The **absence of state based citizenship in India is to promote the feeling of fraternity** among Indians.

10. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

According to **Article 1 of the Indian Constitution**, the territory of India can be classified into

three categories and they are as follows:

1) Territories of the states.
2) Union territories.
3) Territories that may be acquired by the Government of India at any time.

Option a is correct: Territory of India is a more comprehensive term that includes not only the **states but also Union Territories and territories that may be acquired by the Government of India** in the future. In contrast, **"Union of India" includes States only.** While **States** share powers with the Center in the federal system, the Union Territories (**UTs**) and **acquired territories** are directly administered by the Central government.

As a sovereign state, **India can acquire foreign territories through cession, occupation, conquest, or subjugation.** For instance, India acquired territories such as **Dadra and Nagar Haveli**, Goa, Daman and Diu, Puducherry, and Sikkim since the commencement of the Constitution.

Important Tips

1) **Puducherry** (formerly known as Pondicherry) and its enclaves were acquired from **France** in a transfer of sovereignty on November 1, **1954**. Union Territory of Puducherry comprises the former French establishments of **Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam**, which lie scattered in South India.
2) **Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Goa, Daman, and Diu** were acquired by India from **Portugal in 1961**, following a military operation and diplomatic negotiations. Diu remained in the possession of the Portuguese from 1535 until 1961, when it was liberated under **Operation Vijay**. Daman was under the rule of Portuguese till its liberation in 1961. When Goa attained statehood in 1987, Daman and Diu became a union territory in its own right. The area of Dadra & Nagar Haveli was liberated from Portuguese Rulers by people themselves on 2nd August 1954. The union territory was **merged** with the neighboring union territory of Daman and Diu to form the **new union territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu** on January 26, 2020.

3) **Sikkim became a part of India** through a referendum in **1975** and an agreement with the Chogyal (the monarch of Sikkim). Unlike the above territories, Sikkim was not a colonial possession but an independent kingdom that chose to merge with India. Sikkim became 22nd state of the Union of India.

11. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Central Government appointed a States Reorganisation Commission in 1953 to look into the question of redrawing of boundaries of the State. The **States Reorganisation Act, 1956,** that incorporated the major recommendations of this commission, made a major change in the Political landscape of India.

Statement 1 is incorrect: In 1953, the Government of India formed a three-member State Reorganisation Commission to thoroughly reconsider the issue of state reorganisation. This commission was **headed by Fazl Ali (not Jawaharlal Nehru)** and included two other members **K.M. Panikkar and H.N. Kunzru.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The States Reorganisation Commission, submitted its report in 1955. It **acknowledged language as a significant factor for state reorganisation**. However, it did not endorse the idea of one language-one state, meaning language alone should not be the basis for State reorganisation. Instead, it emphasised that maintaining the **unity of India** should be the foremost consideration when restructuring the country's political regions.

Statement 3 is correct: The States Reorganisation Commission outlined the following **four factors to be considered** in any plan for the reorganisation of states and they are as follows:

(a) Preservation and strengthening of the unity and security of the country.

(b) Linguistic and cultural homogeneity.

(c) Financial, economic and administrative considerations.

(d) Planning and promotion of the welfare of the people in each state as well as of the nation as a whole.

Therefore, the statement that the commission proposed welfare of people in each state as one of the basis for reorganising states is true.

12. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Assertion (A) is true- India is called an **"indestructible union of destructible states".** It means that the **Constitution doesn't promise the continued existence or territorial integrity of a state.** The **central government can destroy the state** but the **state government cannot do so.** In the **USA,** in contrast, the **Constitution ensures the territorial integrity and ongoing existence of a state.** The American Federal Government cannot create new states or change the boundaries of existing ones without the agreement of the states involved. This is why the USA is often referred to as 'an **"indestructible union of indestructible states."**

Reason (R) is true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)-India is called an **"indestructible union of destructible states"** because the **Constitution empowers Parliament** to create new states or modify the territories, borders, or names of existing states without requiring their approval. **The Central government can initiate the Constitutional Amendment without the State government's consent.** In essence, Parliament can reshape India's political landscape as it deems fit. **Article 3** grants **Parliament** the authority to:

a) **Create a new state** by taking **territory from an existing state** or by **merging two or more states** or **parts of states** or by **joining any territory with a part of any state;**

b) **Expand the geographical area** of any state;

c) **Reduce the geographical area** of any state;

d) **Modify the borders** of any state; and

e) **Change the name** of any state

13. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Option d is correct: The correct chronological order of the States according to the year of their formation is: **Haryana – Manipur – Mizoram – Uttarakhand.**

In **December 1953, the States Reorganisation Commission** was set up and it **recommended the creation of linguistic States,** at least for the major linguistic groups. In 1956, reorganisation of some States took place. This saw the beginning of the creation of linguistic States and the process is still continuing. Gujarat and Maharashtra were created in 1960.

- **Option 3 - Haryana: Punjab and Haryana were separated from each other in 1966 by the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966** to create Haryana the 17th State of the Indian Union and the union territory of Chandigarh. **On the recommendation of the Shah Commission (1966), the Punjabi-speaking areas were constituted into** the unilingual state of Punjab, the Hindi-speaking areas were constituted into the State of Haryana and the hill areas were merged with the adjoining union territory of Himachal Pradesh.
- **Option 1 - Manipur: In 1972,** the political map of Northeast India underwent a major change through the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971. Thus, the **two union territories of Manipur and Tripura and Meghalaya** (previously an autonomous State within Assam) **got statehood** and the two union territories of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh (originally known as North-East Frontier Agency–NEFA) came into being. Manipur became the 19th State of the Indian Union.
- **Option 4 - Mizoram: In 1987,** the **union territory of Mizoram was conferred the status of a full state** as a sequel to the signing of a memorandum of settlement (Mizoram Peace Accord) in 1986 between the Central government and the Mizo National Front, ending the two-decade-old insurgency.

- **Option 2 - Uttarakhand:** In 2000, **Uttar Pradesh** was divided **to form Uttarakhand** to meet the need for greater administrative efficiency

14. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

A unitary system is one in which all the powers are vested in the national government; and the regional governments, if at all exist, derive their authority from the national government.

A federal system is one in which powers are divided between the national government and the regional governments by the Constitution itself, and both operate in their respective jurisdictions independently. India is sometimes described as a federation with a centralising tendency as the Constitution of India includes a large number of unitary features like single citizenship, more subjects in union list, all India services, etc. In India, thus, the balance of power is tilted in favour of the Centre. For this reason, India is described as 'Quasi-federal' by K.C. Wheare.

Option 1 is incorrect. A written constitution is a federal feature of the Indian Constitution. So it does not provide a centralising tendency to the Indian federation. A written constitution clearly specifies the structure, organisation, powers and functions of both the Central and state governments and prescribes the limits within which they must operate. This avoids the misunderstandings and disagreements between the two sets of governments.

Option 2 is incorrect. The presence of an Independent judiciary **is a federal feature of the Indian Constitution.** So it does not provide a centralising tendency to the Indian federation.

To prevent conflicts between the centre and the State, there is an independent judiciary to settle disputes. The judiciary has the powers to resolve disputes between the central government and the States on legal matters about the division of power.

Option 3 is correct. The provision of Single citizenship is a unitary feature of the Indian Constitution. So, it does provide a centralising tendency to the Indian federation. Federal countries usually have a system of dual citizenship, for example in United States of America, a person is a citizen of USA, and also a citizen of the particular state

Option 4 is incorrect. Essentially, federalism is an institutional mechanism to **accommodate two sets of polities—one at the regional level and the other at the national level.** Each government is autonomous in its own sphere and hence this power distribution is not a centralising tendency of federalism.

Important Tips

Federal features of the Constitution:

- Dual Polity
- Written constitution
- Division of Powers
- Supremacy of the Constitution
- Rigid Constitution.
- Independent Judiciary
- Bicameralism

Unitary features of the Constitution:

- Strong Centre
- Single Constitution for the Centre and the States
- Flexible Constitution
- Emergency provisions
- Integrated Judiciary
- Integrated Election Machinery
- All-India services, etc

3.3. Centre-State Relations

15. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

Pair 1 matched correctly: Public health and sanitation are among the subjects listed in the State List.

Pair 2 matched correctly: Citizenship, naturalization, and aliens are among the subjects listed in the Union List.

Pair 3 matched correctly: Legal, medical, and other professions are among the subjects listed in the Concurrent List.

16. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1, 2 and 3 are correct:

The Constitution has placed **two restrictions on the executive power of the states** in order to give ample scope to the Centre for exercising its executive power in an unrestricted manner. Thus, the executive power of every state is to be exercised in such a way (a) as to ensure compliance with the laws made by the Parliament and any existing law which apply in the state; and (b) as not to impede or prejudice the exercise of executive power of the Centre in the state. In addition to the above two cases, the Centre is empowered to give directions to the states regarding the exercise of their executive power in the following matters:

1) the construction and maintenance of means of communication (declared to be of national or military importance) by the state;
2) the measures to be taken for the protection of the railways within the state;
3) the provision of adequate facilities for instruction in the mother-tongue at the primary stage of education to children belonging to linguistic minority groups in the state; and
4) the drawing up and execution of the specified schemes for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the state.

The coercive sanction behind the Central directions under Article 365 is also applicable in these cases.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The **devolution of financial powers to local governments is a voluntary provision under the 73rd and 74th Amendment Acts.** Thus, executive cannot direct state to implement these provisions as it is under the discretion of state governments in India.

17. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Constitution of India provides for a threefold distribution of legislative subjects between the Union and States - **Union list (100 subjects), State list (61 subjects) and Concurrent list (52 subjects)** enshrined in the **Seventh schedule** of the constitution.

Statement 1 is correct: The laws made by the State legislative assembly may prevail over laws made by the Parliament if such laws were **reserved for the consideration of the President and received the president's assent.** However, it would **still be competent for Parliament to override such State law** by subsequent legislation.

Statement 2 is incorrect: There is **no such exemption** given to the state legislative assembly in matters related to concurrent list. If there is conflict over centre and state laws regarding matters enumerated in the concurrent list, then centre law shall prevail.

Statement 3 is incorrect: There is **no such exceptional condition for the state laws to prevail over union law** in case of inconsistency between them with respect to concurrent list. If there is inconsistency between union and state laws, then the **union law will prevail even if those state laws were made on the directions of the Supreme court.**

18. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

Article 256 to 263 in part XI of the constitution deals with the **administrative (executive) relations** between centre and states. The **executive power** has been divided between centre and state on the lines of distribution of legislative power, while in **concurrent list some novelty** has been exercised by the constitution.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The executive power over matters related to concurrent list usually remains with the state government. **A law on concurrent subjects though enacted by the Parliament is to be generally executed by the states.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: State legislative Assembly does not have the power to authorise the Parliament to exercise executive functions. On the contrary **Parliament can enact laws which specifically mandates the Union government to exercise executive functions** over a law on a concurrent subject.

19. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

Seventh schedule of the constitution distributes the legislative power between centre and states and in ordinary circumstances parliament cannot legislate on matters related to state list. However, the constitution empowers the **Parliament to make laws on any matter enumerated in the State List under the certain extraordinary circumstances.**

Statement 1 is correct: Parliament can make laws on the state subject if the **legislatures of two or more states pass resolutions,** by simple majority, recommending the Parliament to enact laws on a matter in the State List. A law so enacted **applies only to those states which have passed the resolutions.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: There is **no such ground (to implement provisions of Fundamental duties) for the Parliament to make laws on subjects enumerated in the state list.** However, Parliament can make laws on state list to give effect to the international agreements or treaties.

Statement 3 is correct: Parliament can make laws on the state subjects if the **Rajya Sabha passes a resolution supported by two thirds of members present and voting.** Rajya Sabha declares that it is necessary in the national interest that parliament should make laws with respect to matters related to state subjects.

20. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

To protect the interest of states in the financial matters, the Constitution lays down that the following **bills** can be introduced in the Parliament only on the **recommendation of the President:**

- A bill which **imposes or varies any tax** or duty in which states are interested,
- A bill which varies the meaning of the expression **'agricultural income'** as defined for the purposes of the enactments relating to Indian income tax
- A bill which affects the **principles** on which money is **distributable to states**
- A bill which imposes any **surcharge** on any specified tax or duty for the **purpose of the Centre**

Statement 1 is incorrect: A bill which varies any tax in which states are interested shall be introduced in the Parliament only on the **recommendation of the President (not after consultation with state governments).**

Statement 2 is correct: A bill which proposes to alter the meaning of agriculture income must be introduced in the Parliament on the **recommendation of the President.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: The bill affecting the principles on which money is distributed between centre and states **need not to be recommended by the Finance Commission,** rather such bill can be introduced in the Parliament only after the **recommendation of the President.**

Statement 4 is correct: It is true that the **bill which imposes any surcharge** on tax for the purpose of the centre can be introduced in the **Parliament only on the recommendation of the President. As the proceeds of surcharge are not shared with the states, so the divisible pool of finance from centre to states would be affected. Thus, states would be getting lesser share negatively impacting their finances.**

21. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **constitution of India** lays down certain **provisions** with respect to the borrowing powers of the centre and the states.

Statement 1 is incorrect: While it is true that the **centre government can raise money anywhere within the country** or outside India, it is incorrect to say that states can raise money only within their respective boundaries. **States can raise money anywhere within India.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Normally a state can raise a loan without the consent of the centre government. It is **mandatory** for states to take central government's consent for raising any loan if the **state owes any outstanding liabilities to the central government.**

Statement 3 is correct: The **loans** granted by the Centre government to states is **charged on the consolidated fund of India.**

22. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Emergency provisions are contained in Part XVIII of the Constitution, from Articles 352 to 360. These provisions enable the Central government to meet any abnormal situation effectively. Emergency provision fundamentally alters the relations between centre and state.

Statement 1 is incorrect: On the proclamation of **National emergency, power of state legislatures to make laws on state lists is not restricted.** It continues to have **simultaneous legislative power** along with Parliament, however in case of **inconsistency** between Parliament and state assembly laws, the **Parliament law will prevail.**

Statement 2 is correct: It is true that **on revocation of the President's rule, the law made by the Parliament will continue to prevail** unless it would be repealed by the state legislative assembly. In contrast, laws made by Parliament during **national emergency** will **cease to have any effect on the expiration of 6 months** after revocation of national emergency.

Statement 3 is incorrect: On proclamation of the President's rule, **power of the state legislature cannot be exercised by the President but by the Parliament.** The President can assume the functions of State governments and powers vested in the Governor or any executive authority of the state. Further, the President can declare that powers of state legislatures are to be exercised by the Parliament.

Statement 4 is incorrect: On proclamation of **financial emergency, Parliament cannot assume the power of state legislature**, however financial emergency empowers **Union government to executive directions to any state** to observe financial proprietary and to reduce the salaries and pensions of government employees of the state.

23. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

The distribution of **executive functions between centre and state is rigid,** the same as distribution of legislative functions. However, the constitution provides for **inter-governmental delegation of executive functions to mitigate rigidity** and avoid a situation of deadlock.

Statement 1 is correct: The **Governor of a state,** with the **consent** of the central government, can delegate **executive functions of state to centre.** Similarly, the **President** of India can delegate executive functions **of centre to state** with the consent of the state government.

Statement 2 is correct: It is true that the Constitution empowers the **parliament to delegate executive functions** of central government **to states without the consent of states.** Thus, centre can use means of both agreement (consent) and legislation (without consent), state can use only agreement mode.

Statement 3 is incorrect: While the constitution **allows the parliament** to delegate executive functions of centre to state, it does **not allow state legislature to delegate executive functions of state to centre.** In the case of delegation by states, **only governors are allowed** to delegate executive functions.

24. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Articles 268 to 293 in Part XII of the Constitution deal with Centre State financial relations. The taxes enumerated in the **Union List (15 in numbers) are leviable by the Centre exclusively** while those mentioned in the **State List (20 in numbers) are leviable by the States exclusively.** The taxes enumerated in the **concurrent list (5 in numbers)** are leviable by both centre and states.

Option 1 and 5 is incorrect: Both **Surcharge and cess are levied, collected and retained by the central government.** Surcharge is a tax on tax and cess is levied for any specific purpose for example education cess to improve the funding support for education.

Option 2 is correct: Land revenue is a tax levied on land holdings and it is **levied, collected and retained by the state governments.** Land revenues are taxes belonging to the state exclusively thus need not to be shared with the central government.

Option 3 is correct: Entertainment tax is any tax levied on any form of commercial entertainment, such as movie tickets, exhibitions, sport events etc., **Entertainment taxes are levied, collected and retained by states.**

Option 4 is correct: Professional tax not exceeding 2,500Rs can be levied, collected and retained by the state government. Professional tax is a tax levied on individuals who earn income from any profession, trade or employment.

Option 6 is correct: It is true that the **taxes on goods or passengers carried by inland waterways** (or road) will be **levied, collected and retained by the state government.**

25. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Besides sharing of taxes between the Centre and the states, the Constitution provides for grants-in-aid to the states from the Central resources. There are two types of grants-in-aid- statutory **grants and discretionary grants.**

Statement 1 is correct: Discretionary grants are called so because there is **no constitutional obligation for the centre to give these grants to states** and matters lie within the **centre's discretion.** These grants are given to states to help states to fulfil their developmental plans and influence states to implement the national plan.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 282 empowers both the **Centre and the states to make any grants** for any public purpose, even if it is **not within their respective legislative jurisdictions.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: Centre does not allot these grants to states based on the recommendation of the Finance commission. In contrast **statutory grants (Article 275)** are allotted to states by the centre based on the recommendation of the Finance commission.

26. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

India's **federal system**, established by the Constitution, outlines **how the central government** and **state governments work together**. This **division of powers** ensures each level has **clear responsibilities** for effective administration. **Articles 256 to 263 in Part XI** of the Constitution deal with the **administrative relations** between the **Centre** and the **states.**

Statement 1 is correct: President's rule can indeed be **imposed in a state under Article 365** of the Indian Constitution **if the state fails to comply with or give effect to any directions from the Centre**. This is considered a **failure of the constitutional machinery in the state,** providing **grounds** for the **imposition of President's rule**. This provision underscores the **principle of cooperative federalism** while **maintaining the integrity of the central authority** over state governments.

Statement 2 is correct: According to **Article 258(1) of the Constitution**, the **President** can **entrust** to the **states** or their officers, **only with the consent (not without the consent) of the government of the state, any of the executive functions of the Union**. But the Constitution also makes a provision for the entrustment of the executive functions of the Centre to a state without the consent of that state. **But, in this case, the delegation is by the Parliament and not by the president.** Thus, a law made by the Parliament on a subject of the Union List can confer powers and impose duties on a state, or authorize the conferring of powers and imposition of duties by the Centre upon a state (irrespective of the consent of the state concerned). Notably, the same thing cannot be done by the state legislature.

27. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. Zonal Councils are the statutory bodies. They are established by an Act of Parliament, that is, **the States Reorganization Act of 1956.**

Statement 2 is incorrect. The **Union Home Minister is the Chairman** of each of these Councils. **The Chief Ministers of the States included in each zone act as Vice-Chairman** of the Zonal Council for that zone by rotation, each holding office for a period of one year at a time.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The **Central Zonal Council** comprises of the States of Chhattisgarh, **Uttarakhand**, **Uttar Pradesh** and Madhya Pradesh.

28. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Under the Constitution, the jurisdiction of each state is limited to its own territory. Consequently, there might be situations where the actions and records of one state are not recognized in another state. To address this issue, the Constitution includes the **"Full Faith and Credit" clause**, which stipulates the following:

Options 1, 2 and 3 are correct: According to article 261 of the Constitution of India —(1) Full faith and credit shall be given throughout the territory of India to public acts, records and judicial proceedings of the Union and of every State. (2) The manner in which and the conditions under which the acts, records and proceedings referred to in clause (1) shall be proved and the effect thereof determined shall be as provided by law made by Parliament.

29. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Statement 1 is correct: In context of Distribution of Revenues between the Union and the States, "net proceeds" means in relation to any tax or duty the proceeds thereof reduced by the cost of collection, and for the purposes of those provisions the net proceeds of any tax or duty, or of any part of any tax or duty, in or attributable to any area **shall be ascertained and certified by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, whose certificate shall be final.**

Statement 2 is correct: A bill changing the definition of agricultural income can only be introduced on the recommendation of the President.

1) **Agricultural income is primarily a state subject, but any modification to its definition requires the President's approval.**

30. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Under **Article 293(3)** of the Constitution of India (Under section 48A of Union territories Act, in case of Union Territory), a **State Government must obtain the permission of the Central Government** for any borrowing **if there is any outstanding loan** that the State Government may have from the Centre. It is **not for every borrowing.**

Statement 2 is correct: The **limits for the borrowing** by the central government are **fixed** by Parliament. The Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, 2003, lays down the fiscal rules for the central government, including limits on borrowing. The **Constitution (Article 292) limits the Union government's power to borrow by allowing Parliament to impose limits** on such borrowing by law.

31. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Seventh Schedule** of the Indian Constitution is **one of twelve schedules** that **regulates** the **relationship between the Union and State governments**. It specifies **the division of powers** and functions between the two. The Seventh Schedule has **three lists** viz. **Union List, State List** and **Concurrent List** where the **concurrent list** ensures that **both the Centre and the States** have the **power to legislate on subjects in the list.**

Option 1 is correct: Bankruptcy and **insolvency** are **listed** in the **concurrent list** of the **Seventh Schedule** of the Constitution of India. **Bankruptcy** is a legal process that allows people or entities to **seek relief from some or all of their debts. Insolvency** is a financial state of distress in which a **person or business is unable to pay their debts.**

Option 2 is correct: The **prevention of cruelty to animals** is listed in the **Concurrent List**, or List III (listed **as entry 17**) of the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution. This means that both the Centre and the States have the power to legislate on this issue.

Option 3 is correct: Trade unions is listed in the **Concurrent List** in the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution. The **Concurrent List includes 52 subjects**, like trade unions, marriage, adoption, and succession.

Option 4 is correct: Electricity is a **concurrent subject** in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. It is listed as **item 38** in List III of the Constitution.

Option 5 is incorrect: According to the **Seventh Schedule** of the Constitution of India, item - **'taxes on agricultural income'** is listed under **Entry 46 in the State List**. Thus, **only state governments can enact legislation** to impose taxes on agricultural income.

Option 6 is incorrect: Inter-state quarantine (Entry 81) is part of the **Union List** in the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution.

Important Tips

The Concurrent List also includes the following items –

1) Forests
2) Protection of wild animals and birds
3) Prevention of the extension of infectious or contagious diseases or pests affecting men, animals, or plants

The Union list enumerates a total of 97 subjects over which the power of the Union parliament extends. Similarly, the State list enumerates a total of 66 subjects for state legislation.

32. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement a is correct: The **Zonal Councils are the statutory (and not the constitutional) bodies**. They are established by an Act of the Parliament, that is, **States Reorganisation Act of 1956**. The act divided the country into five zones (Northern, Central, Eastern, Western and Southern) and provided a zonal council for each zone.

Statement b is correct: Each zonal council consists of the following members: (a) home minister of Central government. (b) chief ministers of all the States in the zone. (c) Two other ministers from each state in the zone. (d) Administrator of each union territory in the zone. The **home minister of Central government is the common chairman of the five zonal councils.**

Statement c is correct: Each chief minister acts as a **vice-chairman of the council by rotation**, holding office for a period of one year at a time

Statement d is incorrect: The zonal councils aim at promoting cooperation and coordination between states, union territories and the Centre. They discuss and make recommendations regarding matters like economic and social planning, linguistic minorities, border disputes, interstate transport, and so on. They are **only deliberative and advisory bodies (not adjudicatory bodies).**

33. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The **Seventh Schedule** of the Constitution of India provides for the **division of legislative powers between the Central and State governments** into three lists: **Union List (97 Subjects), State List (59 Subjects) and Concurrent List (52 Subjects).**

Pair 1 is incorrect: The State List includes subjects exclusively under the jurisdiction of State Governments, such as public order, health, and agriculture. **Betting and gambling is listed under Entry 34 of the State List (List II) (and not Union List)** of the Seventh Schedule.

Pair 2 is incorrect: The **Concurrent List (List III)** allows both the Central and State Legislatures to make laws on shared subjects, with the central law prevailing in case of any conflict. **Personal laws including marriage and divorce;** subjects such as infants and minors; adoption; wills, intestacy and succession; joint family and partition are covered under the Concurrent List.

Pair 3 is incorrect: Inter-State migration; inter-State quarantine **is mentioned in the Union list (and not the Concurrent List)** of the Seventh Schedule.

The **Union List (List I)** contains subjects on which only the Central government can legislate, encompassing critical areas such as **defence, foreign affairs, and banking.**

34. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **Sarkaria Commission** (1983–1988), constituted to examine Centre-State relations, recommended that the **Governor's tenure of five years** should be respected and **not cut short arbitrarily**. It emphasized that removal should be made **only in rare and compelling situations**, ensuring that the office of the Governor remains neutral, independent, and stable.

Other Recommendations of the Commission are:

1. The **Governor** should be a **person of eminence** from **outside the state** and should **not have been actively involved in politics** in recent years.
2. The **Chief Minister** should be **consulted** before the **appointment of the Governor**, through the **Vice President** or the **Speaker of Lok Sabha**.
3. **Article 356** should be used **sparingly** and only as a **measure of last resort.**
4. The **Governor's report** recommending **President's Rule** should be a **speaking document**, clearly stating the **material facts and grounds.**
5. The **State Legislative Assembly** should **not be dissolved** unless the **proclamation under Article 356 is approved by Parliament.**
6. The **Centre should consult States** before enacting laws on subjects in the **Concurrent List.**

35. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

India's Constitution provides for a **federal division of taxing powers** between the Union and the States under **Articles 268 to 293 (Part XII)**. These provisions are crucial to maintain fiscal federalism and clarity on taxation authority, collection, and appropriation. The allocation is designed such that both levels of government can raise resources within their constitutionally defined spheres.

Statement 1 is correct: The constitution has explicitly laid out the powers and functions of the Centre and the State governments regarding taxation. **Taxes on agricultural income fall under Entry 46 in the State List. Thus, only State Governments can levy tax on agricultural income.** The central government can levy tax on incomes other than agricultural income. The Central Government cannot levy tax on agricultural income.

Statement 2 is correct: States are empowered to levy taxes on consumption or sale of electricity within their jurisdiction. However, there are restrictions:

1. **As per Article 287 of the Constitution, states cannot impose taxes on electricity used by the Government of India,** unless the Parliament allows them, through a law, to impose such taxation.
2. The states also cannot impose tax on electricity used in the construction, maintenance, or operation of railways. This protects essential central operations from fiscal interference by States.

36. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Special Category Status (SCS) is a classification granted by the central government to certain states or regions to provide special assistance through tax benefits and financial support for their development.

Statement 1 is correct: The concept of SCS was first brought into existence through the recommendations made by the Fifth Finance Commission in 1969. The criteria for SCS were developed by social scientist Dhananjay Ramchandra Gadgil, who was the deputy chairman of the Planning Commission.

Statement 2 is correct: Special Category States (SCS) received preferential treatment in Normal Central Assistance (NCA) and had a lower state share in Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), especially for Northeastern states. Unlike General Category States, which received assistance primarily as loans, SCS were provided Special Plan Assistance (90% grant), Special Central Assistance (100% untied grants), and **Externally Aided Projects (EAPs) assistance as 90% grants, while General Category States received EAP aid as back-to-back loans.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: There are 11 States at present which have been granted Special Category Status viz., Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttarakhand. **Andhra Pradesh was not granted Special Category Status (SCS) after its bifurcation in 2014, despite demands for it.** Instead, the Central Government offered the state a special financial package (SP) as an alternative.

37. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Part XI (Articles 245-255) of the Indian Constitution deals with legislative relations between the states and the centre. The legislative relationships between the union and the states are divided into three categories:

1. Territorial extent of central and state legislations,
2. Parliamentary legislation in the state field,
3. Centre's control over state legislation.

Statement 1 is correct. Article 248 grants the Parliament exclusive authority to make laws on residuary subjects, that it matters not listed in any of the three lists. This provision ensures that the Central Government can address unforeseen or evolving issues that may not have been contemplated at the time of drafting of the Constitution. This helps provide flexibility in governance and unity and integrity of the nation.

Statement 2 is incorrect. While the President's prior recommendation is required for certain types of bills under Article 304 (e.g., bills that impose restrictions on interstate trade and commerce), **there is no such requirement for bills dealing with subjects in the Concurrent List.** States can make laws on Concurrent List subjects without prior recommendation, but if there is a conflict between the central and state laws, the central law prevails.

38. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Constitution provides for grants-in-aid to the states from the Central resources. There are two types of grants-in-aid, viz, statutory grants and discretionary grants.

Option a is incorrect: Article 275 empowers the Parliament to make grants to the states which are in need of **financial assistance and not to every state.** Also, different sums may be fixed for different states.

Option b is incorrect: Article 282 empowers both the Centre and the states to make any grants for **any public purpose**, even if it is not within their respective legislative competence. Under this provision, the Centre makes grants to the states. "These grants are also known as **discretionary grants.** These grants have a two-fold purpose: to help the state financially to **fulfil plan targets**; and to give some leverage to the Centre to influence and **coordinate state action** to effectuate the national plan."

Constitution provides for **statutory grants for promoting the welfare of the scheduled tribes in a state or for raising the level of administration of the scheduled areas in a state** including the State of Assam.

Option c is correct: Article 275 empowers the Parliament to make grants to the states

which are in need of financial assistance and not to every state. **The statutory grants under Article 275 (both general and specific) are given to the states on the recommendation of the Finance**

Commission.

Option d is incorrect: Excess Grant (not Discretionary Grant) is granted when money has been spent on any service during a financial year in excess of the amount granted for that service in the budget for that year. **Before the demands for excess grants are submitted to the Lok Sabha for voting, they must be approved by the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament.**

Under article 282, both centre and states are able to make any grants for public purpose even if they are not within their legislative competence.

39. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Constitution mandates that certain financial bills require the recommendation of the President before being introduced in Parliament to protect states' interests.

Option 1, 3 and 4 are correct: To protect the interest of states in the financial matters, the Constitution lays down that the following bills can be introduced in the Parliament only on the recommendation of the President:

- A bill which **imposes or varies any tax or duty in which states are interested;**
- A bill which varies the meaning of the expression 'agricultural income' as defined for the purposes of the enactments relating to Indian income tax;
- A bill which **affects the principles on which moneys are or may be distributable to states**; and
- A bill which **imposes any surcharge on any specified tax or duty for the purpose of the Centre.**

Option 2 is incorrect: Under Article 307 of Constitution of India Parliament can appoint an appropriate authority for carrying out the purposes of the above provisions relating to the freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse and restrictions on it.

40. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The legal disputes between the centre and the states (or between states) can be resolved by the judiciary. The Supreme Court of India has exclusive original jurisdiction over disputes between the central government and one or more states or between two or more states. "Exclusive" implies that only the Supreme Court has the authority to adjudicate such disputes, and "original" signifies that this court has the initial jurisdiction to handle these cases, rather than hearing them on appeal.

41. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Under Article 352, the President can declare a national emergency when the security of India or a part of it is threatened by war or external aggression or armed rebellion.

Statement 1 is correct: During a national emergency, the executive power of the Centre extends to directing any state regarding the manner in which its executive power is to be exercised. In normal times, the Centre can give executive directions to a state only on certain specified matters. However, during a **national emergency, the Centre becomes entitled to give executive directions to a state on 'any' matter.** Thus, the state governments are brought under the complete control of the Centre, though they are not suspended.

Statement 2 is correct: During a national emergency, the **Parliament becomes empowered to make laws on any subject mentioned in the State List.** Although the legislative power of a state legislature is not suspended, it becomes subject to the overriding power of the Parliament. Thus, the normal distribution of the legislative powers between the Centre and states is suspended, though the state Legislatures are not suspended.

Statement 3 is correct: While a proclamation of national emergency is in operation, the **President can modify the constitutional distribution of revenues between the centre and the states.** This means that the president can either reduce or cancel the transfer of finances from Centre to the states.

42. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is incorrect. Under the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution, **the subject of "land" falls under the State List**

(entry 18 of State List). So, **under normal circumstances, only the State Legislature** has the power to make laws on this subject.

Pair 2 is incorrect. Under the Seventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution, **the subject of "education" falls under the Concurrent List** (entry 25 of Concurrent List). So, both **the Parliament and the State Legislature** have the power to make laws on this subject.

The 42nd amendment to the Constitution transferred this subject from the state list to the concurrent list.

Pair 3 is incorrect. "Posts and telegraphs; telephones, wireless, broadcasting and other like forms of communication" are listed as entry 31 of the Union List of the Seventh Schedule. So, **only the Parliament** can make laws on such subjects. Under this subject, the Parliament has recently enacted the Post Office Act, 2023.

43. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 356 of the Indian Constitution empowers the President to impose President's Rule in a state if he is satisfied that the governance in that state cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. The Supreme Court's judgment in the S.R. Bommai case (1994) laid down clear guidelines to prevent its misuse. It emphasized that the President's satisfaction under Article 356 is subject to judicial review, and a proclamation must be based on relevant and constitutional grounds.

Option 1 is incorrect. As per the Sarkaria Commission and the Supreme Court in the S.R. Bommai judgment, maladministration, poor governance, or allegations of corruption do not amount to constitutional breakdown. Article 356 is meant for cases where the state government cannot be carried on in accordance with the Constitution, not for punitive action against bad administration.

Option 2 is correct. The Supreme Court in S.R. Bommai case (1994) explicitly held that secularism is a basic feature of the Constitution. If a state government promotes anti-secular policies or discriminates based on religion, it is considered a violation of constitutional principles, thereby justifying the use of Article 356.

Option 3 is correct. As per the Sarkaria Commission and the Supreme Court in S.R. Bommai case (1994), a physical breakdown in governance, where the administration has ceased to function or deliberately refuses to carry out constitutional obligations, makes the imposition of President's Rule constitutionally proper.

Option 4 is correct. As per the Sarkaria Commission and the Supreme Court in S.R. Bommai case (1994), if a ruling ministry loses its majority in the legislative assembly, and the Governor finds that no alternative party or coalition is willing and able to form the government, then there exists a governance vacuum. In such a case, the President's Rule may be imposed. However, the Governor must explore all options first. The Court insisted that floor tests are mandatory and political **assessments must not substitute for legislative confidence.**

44. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement I is correct: Article 245 of the Indian Constitution empowers Parliament to make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India and even for areas outside its territory if required. The **Parliament alone can make extra-territorial legislation.** Thus, the laws enacted by Parliament are also applicable to Indian citizens and their property in any part of the world.

Statement II is correct: According to **Article 248** of the Constitution, **Parliament has exclusive authority to legislate on residuary subjects.** Residuary subjects are those matters that are not mentioned in the Union, State, or Concurrent Lists of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

While **both statements are correct, Statement II does not explain Statement I:** Statement I pertains to Parliament's ability to legislate beyond India's territorial limits, which is governed by Article 245. Statement II refers to Parliament's exclusive authority over residuary subjects, which is a separate aspect under Article 248. Therefore, **Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I.**

Hence, the correct answer is: **Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I.**

45. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Government of India constituted a Commission on Centre-State Relations under the chairmanship of Justice Madan Mohan Punchhi, former Chief Justice of India on 27 April 2007 to look into the new issues of Centre-State relations keeping in view the changes that have taken place in the polity and economy of India since the Sarkaria Commission had last looked at the issue of Centre-State relations over two decades ago.

Statement 1 is correct. The Punchhi Commission recommended that **Governors** should have a **fixed tenure of five years,** which is essential for ensuring stability and autonomy in their functioning. This recommendation was made to prevent frequent removal of Governors based on political considerations.

Statement 2 is correct. The Punchhi Commission highlighted the need for a **permanent and fair mechanism** for resolving **interstate boundary disputes,** as they often result in prolonged conflicts and tensions between states.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The Punchhi Commission did **not** recommend the **abolition of All India Services (IAS, IPS, etc.).** Instead, it emphasized their importance in maintaining the unity of India and ensuring uniformity in administration across states. Further it also suggested to create new all-India services in sectors like health, education, engineering and judiciary.

46. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. The **all-India services are services common to the entire territory of India.** The officers chosen for these services serve in the administration of both the Centre and the States. These officers are under ultimate control of the central government while immediate control lies with state governments they are serving under. **States cannot remove these officers from service.**

Statement 2 is correct. Article 33 of Indian Constitution empowers **Parliament to make laws that would restrict the application of fundamental rights to a specific category of people, including members of the Armed Forces** and intelligence organisations.

47. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The origins of the President's rule under Article 356 can be traced back to the Government of India Act of 1935. It was designed to allow the Union Government to intervene in States facing breakdowns of law & order or constitutional governance issues.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 356 of the Constitution empowers the President to impose President's Rule in a State If the President, on receipt of a report from the Governor of a State or otherwise, is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the Government of the State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

Article 365 further supports this by stating —Where any State has failed to comply with, or to give effect to, any directions given in the exercise of the executive power of the Union under any of the provisions of this Constitution, it shall be lawful for the President to hold that a situation has arisen in which the Government of the State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

Statement 2 is correct: The President's proclamation has to be ratified by Parliament. When the President's Rule is declared, both the Houses of Parliament must approve it within two months. If both Houses of Parliament approve, the **President's Rule lasts for six months initially (from the date of proclamation and not the date of approval by the Parliament).** It can be further **extended up to a maximum period of three years in six-months extension at a time with Parliament's approval.**

Statement 3 is correct: Under **Article 356,** when President's Rule is imposed, the State's **Council of Ministers,** including the Chief Minister, is dismissed, and executive authority is assumed by the President. The **State Legislative Assembly** is not automatically dissolved but placed under **suspended animation,** allowing it to be revived later unless specifically dissolved in the proclamation.

3.4. Inter-State Relations

48. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

In India, River Boards are statutory bodies established to manage and develop the water resources of inter-state rivers and river basins. These bodies are established under the River Boards Act, 1956.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 262 of the Constitution provides for the adjudication of inter-state water disputes. It makes two provisions: (i) Parliament may by law provide for the adjudication of any dispute or complaint with respect to the use, distribution and control of waters of any inter-state river and river valley. (ii) Parliament may also provide that neither the Supreme Court nor any other court is to exercise jurisdiction in respect of any such dispute or complaint. **Under this provision, the Parliament has enacted two laws-The River Boards Act (1956)** and the Inter-State Water Disputes Act (1956)].

Statement 2 is incorrect: A river board is **established by the Central government** on the request of the state governments concerned to advise them.

Statement 3 is correct: The main objective of River Boards is to **promote integrated and coordinated development of inter-state river systems** and to regulate and develop water resources in an equitable and sustainable manner. They facilitate cooperation and coordination among the various states sharing a river basin and help to resolve disputes over the use of river water resources. They are also **entrusted with the task of preparing schemes,** including multi-purpose schemes, for the **purpose of regulating or developing the inter-State River** or river valley and advising the Governments interested to undertake measures for executing the scheme prepared by the Board

49. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Recently, Prime Minister of India attended the **Golden Jubilee celebrations (50 years) of the North-Eastern Council (NEC) in Shillong.** The Northeastern Council is the nodal agency for the economic and social development of the Northeastern Region.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Northeastern Council was **constituted in 1971 by an Act of Parliament.** It is a **statutory body established by the Government of India in 1971 under the Northeastern Council Act, 1971.** The council is headquartered in Shillong, Meghalaya, and covers the eight states of the Northeast region of India, namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura.

Statement 2 is correct: Northeastern Council (NEC) is under the **administrative purview of Ministry of Development of the North-Eastern Region (MDoNER).** NEC has made significant contributions to the socio-economic development of the Northeastern region, as an Advisory body and as a Planning body.

Statement 3 is correct: The NEC consists of the **Governors and Chief Ministers of the eight states** of the Northeast region, along with nominated members from the government of India.

Statement 4 is correct: The NEC Act was amended by Parliament in 2002 to **add Sikkim and restructure** it as the **regional planning body** for the Northeastern Region. In 2018, The Union Cabinet has approved a proposal of the

Ministry of Development of Northeastern Region (DoNER) for **nomination of Union Home Minister as ex-officio Chairman of Northeastern Council (NEC).**

50. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 263 contemplates the establishment of an Inter-State Council to effect coordination between the states and between Centre and states. Thus, the President can establish such a council if at any time it appears to him that the public interest would be served by its establishment.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **president is empowered to define the duties** of an inter-state council. He can define the nature of duties to be performed by such a council and its organisation and procedure.

Statement 2 is correct: The **Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State Relations (1983–87) made a strong case for the establishment of a permanent Inter-State Council under Article 263** of the Constitution. It recommended that to differentiate the Inter-State Council from other bodies established under the same Article 263, it must be called as the Inter-Governmental Council. In **pursuance of the above recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission, the Janata Dal Government headed by V. P. Singh established** the Inter-State Council in 1990.

Statement 3 is correct: The **council is a recommendatory body on issues relating to inter-state, Centre–state and Centre–union territories relations.** It aims at promoting coordination between them by examining, discussing and deliberating on such issues. Its duties, in detail, are as follows:

- investigating and discussing such subjects in which the states or the centre have a common interest;
- making recommendations upon any such subject for the better coordination of policy and action on it; and
- deliberating upon such other matters of general interest to the states as may be referred to it by the chairman.

Statement 4 is correct: The Council is assisted by a secretariat called the Inter-State Council Secretariat. This secretariat was set-up in 1991 and is headed by a secretary to the Government of India. Since 2011, it is also functioning as the secretariat of the Zonal Councils. The Council may meet at least thrice in a year. Its meetings are held in **camera and all questions are decided by consensus.**

51. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Articles 301 to 307 in Part XIII of the Constitution deal with the trade, commerce and intercourse within the territory of India. The object of these provision is to break down the border barriers between the states and to create one unit with a view to encourage the free flow of trade, commerce and intercourse in the country.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The subject of 'Inter-state trade and commerce' is provided in **the Union list under Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.** This means that the power to legislate on matters related to inter-state trade and commerce is given to the central government, and not to the state governments.

Statement 2 is correct: Parliament can impose **restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse between the states or within a state in public interest.** But the Parliament cannot give preference to one state over another or discriminate between the states except in the case of scarcity of goods in any part of India.

Statement 3 is correct: The legislature of a state can imposes reasonable restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse with that state or within that state in public interest. But a **bill for this purpose can be introduced in the legislature only with the previous sanction of the president.** Further, the state legislature cannot give preference to one state over another or discriminate between the states.

Statement 4 is correct: The **Parliament can appoint an appropriate authority for carrying out the purposes of the provisions relating to the freedom of trade,** commerce and intercourse and restrictions on it. The Parliament can also confer on that authority the necessary powers and duties. But no such authority has been appointed so far.

52. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. Article 262 of the Constitution empowers Parliament to frame a law providing for the adjudication of any dispute or complaint with respect to the use, distribution and control of waters of any inter-state river and river valley. Using this power Parliament has framed the Inter State Water Disputes Act, 1956.

Statement 2 is incorrect. As per Art 262 (2), Parliament (and not President) may provide that neither the Supreme Court nor any other court is to exercise jurisdiction in respect of any such dispute or complaint.

Statement 3 is incorrect. State legislatures have authority over **water (with Entry 17 of State List)** issues within their respective territories, the central government (under **Entry 56 of Union List) holds** jurisdiction over inter-state rivers and river valleys. This delineation of powers is established in the Constitution, assigning **water as a subject under state jurisdiction,** and granting **the Union Government the responsibility for regulating and developing resources related to inter-state rivers and their valleys.**

53. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement-I is correct: Parliament has enacted the River Boards Act, 1956, under Entry 56 of List I, to promote integrated and optimum development of the waters of inter-State rivers and river valleys. This Act contemplated the appointment of River Boards by the Central Government in consultation with the State Governments for advising on integrated development of waters of inter-State rivers and river valleys. It was expected that these Boards would help in coordinated and optimum utilization of the river waters and promote development of irrigation, drainage, water

supply, flood-control and hydroelectric power. However, the provisions of this Act have not been put to use all these years, and the Act has remained a dead letter.

Statement – II is correct Parliament has enacted the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956, for settlement of disputes. Section 2(c) of the Act defines 'water dispute' as "any dispute or difference between two or more State Governments with respect to— (i) the use, distribution or control of the water of, or in, any inter-State river or river valley; or (ii) the interpretation of the terms of any agreement relating to the use, distribution or control of such waters or the implementation of such agreement; or (iii) the levy of any water rate in contravention of the prohibition.

Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I: Given in statement I, the River Boards Act, 1956 promotes integrated and optimum development of the waters of inter-State rivers and river valleys. On the other hand, statement –II deals with the adjudication of disputes relating to waters of inter-State rivers or river valleys for which Parliament has enacted a separate act namely the Inter-State River Water Disputes Act, 1956. So, both statements I and II, although related to Article 262 of the Constitution of India, deal with different matters.

Important Tips

Under the provisions of Article 262, the **Parliament also enacted the Inter-State Water Disputes Act (1956).** The Inter-State Water Disputes Act **empowers the Central government to set up an ad hoc tribunal** for the adjudication of a dispute between two or more states in relation to the waters of an inter-state river or river valley. The **decision of the tribunal would be final and binding on the parties to the dispute.** Neither the Supreme Court nor any other court is to have jurisdiction in respect of any water dispute which may be referred to such a tribunal under this Act.

54. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Inter-**State Council (ISC)** is a **platform** for **discussing policies** and **strengthening relations between the Center and States.** The ISC was **established on May 28, 1990,** and its headquarters is located in New Delhi.

Statement 1 is correct: The **Inter-State Council (ISC)** is a **constitutional body.** It was established in **1990 by a presidential order.** The ISC is also an **advisory and quasi-federal body.** The ISC is **established under Article 263** of the Constitution of India.

Statement 2 is correct: The ISC is **chaired by the Prime Minister of India.**

Statement 3 is correct: ISC's members include the Chief Ministers of all states, Chief Ministers of Union Territories having a Legislative Assembly, Administrators of UTs not having a Legislative Assembly, Six Union Ministers and **Eleven Union Cabinet Ministers/Minister of State (Independent Charge).**

Statement 4 is incorrect: According to Article 263 of the Constitution of India, the President (not the Parliament), by order, establishes the Inter-State Council, and defines the nature of the duties to be performed by it and its organisation and procedure.

Statement 5 is incorrect: The **Inter-State Council's recommendations** are **not binding** on the states or the Centre. The **Council's role is advisory rather than binding.** Its purpose is to **promote cooperative federalism** and **coordination between the Centre and the states.** The Council can deal with any controversy, whether legal or non-legal, but its **function is advisory.**

Important Tips

1) The ISC's procedure states that it should meet at least three times every year. However, since its constitution in 1990, the body has met only 11 times.
2) The ISC's functions include –
   a. Inquiring and advising on disputes between states
   b. Investigating and discussing subjects of common interest to the states
   c. Making suggestions for better coordination of policy and action
   d. Ensuring regular meet-ups between the members so that a fruitful outcome can be achieved

INDIAN POLITY AND GOVERNANCE

JUDICIARY

4.1. The Supreme Court

1. Consider the following statements regarding the principle of Judicial Review in India:

1. The term "judicial review" is explicitly mentioned in the Constitution of India.
2. The Supreme Court has the power to review the constitutionality of laws passed by both the Parliament and state legislatures.
3. The principle of judicial review in India is inspired from the judiciary of the United Kingdom.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

2. With reference to the principles of a fair trial in the criminal justice system in India (subject to statutory restrictions), consider the following:

1. The accused has the right to legal representation.
2. The accused has the right to know about the accusations.
3. The accused is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.
4. The burden of proving the guilt of the accused lies on the prosecution and must be established beyond reasonable doubt.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

3. Under Article 32 of Constitution of India, the Supreme Court can issue writs only for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights. Which of the following has the authority to empower the Supreme Court to issue writs for purposes other than the enforcement of Fundamental Rights?

(a) President of India
(b) Parliament of India
(c) Council of Ministers
(d) Chief Justice of India

4. Consider the following statements:

As per the Constitution of India, a citizen of India would be qualified to be appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court only if:

1. s/he is at least 35 years of age.
2. s/he has been a High Court judge for 5 years.
3. s/he has been an advocate of the High Court for at least 10 years.
4. in the opinion of the President of India a distinguished jurist.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 1, 2 and 4
(c) 2, 3 and 4
(d) 2 and 3 only

5. With reference to the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971, consider the following acts/ matters:

1. Wilful disobedience to a judgment or order of the court.
2. Publication of a matter which prejudices or interferes with the due course of a judicial proceeding.
3. An act which scandalizes or lowers the authority of the court.
4. An act that obstructs the administration of justice in any manner.

How many of the above acts/matters come under the Civil Contempt of Court?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

6. In the context of legal doctrines, which of the following suggests that all issues arising in a litigation out of the same subject matter must be addressed in a single suit?

(a) Henderson doctrine
(b) Doctrine of stare decisis
(c) Doctrine of Pith and Substance
(d) Doctrine of lis pendens

7. Consider the following pairs:

Doctrine	Description
1. Doctrine of Pith and Substance	Irrespective of the intent, a law becomes unconstitutional if it falls outside the legislature's domain.
2. Doctrine of Colourable Legislation	If legislatures cannot do something directly, then they also cannot do it indirectly.
3. Doctrine of Territorial Nexus	State laws should be strictly applicable within the boundaries of that respective state.

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

8. With reference to Indian Polity, consider the following statements:

Statement I: National Law Day is celebrated on November 26 every year in India.

Statement II: Supreme Court of India was established on November 26, 1949.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

9. The puisne judges of the Supreme Court refer to:

(a) Chief Justice of India only.
(b) Chief Justice of India and all other judges of the Supreme Court.
(c) Ad hoc judges of the Supreme Court only.
(d) All judges of the Supreme Court other than the Chief Justice of India.

10. Consider the following statements regarding removal of judges of the Supreme Court of India:

1. As per the Constitution, the Supreme Court judge can be removed on the grounds of occupying an office of profit, as recognized by the Parliament.
2. The Presiding Officer of either Houses of Parliament can accept the motion of removal of the Supreme Court judge only if it is supported by at least 50 members of the House.
3. Presiding Officer of the Houses of Parliament has the discretion to accept or reject the motion of removal for the Supreme Court judge.
4. Only one judge of the Supreme Court of India has been impeached so far in the independent history of the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3
(b) 3 only
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 2 and 4

11. Which one of the following statements is *incorrect* with reference to the powers of the Chief Justice of India (CJI)?

(a) S/he decides which cases will be heard by a Constitution Bench and its composition.
(b) S/he can appoint a district judge as an ad-hoc judge in the Supreme Court with the previous consent of the President.
(c) S/he can appoint any retired judge of the Supreme Court to act as a Supreme Court judge with prior permission of the President.
(d) S/he with the approval of the President has the authority to establish any place as the seat of the Supreme Court.

12. With reference to the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), consider the following statements:

1. The Chief Justice of India is the Patron-in-Chief of NALSA.
2. One of its functions is to disburse funds for the implementation of legal aid programs and schemes across the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

13. With reference to the present status of Indian judiciary, consider the following statements :

Statement-I: The writ jurisdiction of the High Court is wider than that of the Supreme Court.

Statement-II: Unlike the Supreme Court, High courts can issue writs for purposes other than the enforcement of fundamental rights as well.

Statement-III: Unlike the Supreme Court, High Courts can issue writs against both private individuals and public authorities.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct and both of them explain Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, but only one of them explains Statement-I
(c) Only one of the Statement II and III is correct and that explains Statement-I
(d) Neither Statement-II nor Statement-III is correct

14. Consider the following circumstances:

1. If the Chief Justice of India is unable to perform the duties of his/her office due to absence.
2. When both the houses of the Parliament passed a resolution demanding initiation of impeachment motion against the Chief Justice of India.
3. If the deadlock between Government and Collegium over the appointment of Chief Justice of India persists for more than six months.

In how many of the above circumstances does the Constitution empowers the President of India to appoint "acting Chief Justice of India"?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

15. Consider the following statements about Free legal aid provided under Legal Services Authority Act, 1987:

1. It is provided for both civil and criminal cases.
2. It is applicable to cases before any court or tribunal.
3. It is applicable to cases even at the stage of appeal.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3 only

16. Consider the following statements with reference to the removal of a judge of the Supreme Court:

1. As per the Constitution of India he/she can be removed from office only on the grounds of proven misbehaviour or incapacity.
2. If the motion for his/her removal is taken up for voting, the law requires it to be backed by each House of Parliament and supported by the majority of total membership of that House.
3. The motion for the removal of a judge lapses on the dissolution of Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

17. What is meant by the term Judicial Restraint?

(a) The practice where courts take proactive steps to fill legislative gaps through judgments.
(b) The philosophy where courts avoid interfering in policy matters unless there is a clear constitutional violation.
(c) The tendency of courts to actively monitor executive functions on a regular basis.
(d) The practice by courts to exercise their suo moto jurisdiction by taking up matters based on media reports.

18. Consider the following types of citizens:

1. A Woman having an annual income of 10 Lakh.
2. A Child below the age of 18 years.
3. A person belonging to the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) category.
4. A victim of trafficking in human beings or begar as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution of India.

How many of the above are eligible for free legal aid under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

19. In the context of the judicial system in India, which of the following has the authority to enlarge the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India?
(a) The President of India
(b) Parliament through a constitutional amendment
(c) The Parliament through an ordinary law
(d) Central government through an executive notification

20. Consider the following principle:

"If a legislature lacks the jurisdiction to enact laws on a specific subject directly, it cannot make laws on it indirectly". This doctrine is applied when legislature tries to accomplish something in a backhanded way when it can't do it straightforwardly.

Which of the following judicial doctrines best describes the principle mentioned above?
(a) Doctrine of Ancillary Powers
(b) Doctrine of Severability
(c) Doctrine of Eclipse
(d) Doctrine of Colorable Legislation

21. Which of the following best describes the Doctrine of Merger in Indian legal context ?
(a) It allows a state legislature to make laws that have an impact outside its territory if there is a sufficient nexus between the subject matter and the state.
(b) It prevents the legislature from passing laws indirectly that it cannot enact directly due to lack of jurisdiction.
(c) It implies absorption of a lower court's decision into the higher court's ruling upon appeal.
(d) It states that a law inconsistent with the Fundamental Rights becomes invalid but not void.

22. Consider the following dispute matters:
1. Elections disputes relating to the President of India.
2. Election disputes relating to the election of members of Lok Sabha.
3. Disputes between the Centre and one or more States.

As per the Constitution of India in which of the above matter(s) does the Supreme Court of India has/have exclusive jurisdiction?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

23. Consider the following situations:
1. A person is made the judge in his/her own case.
2. A person is punished without being given an opportunity to present his/her side.
3. A person is not informed of the charges before being penalised.
4. A person is denied legal representation in a criminal case.

In which of the above situations are the Principle of Natural Justice violated?
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

24. Consider the following statements about the Collegium system of the judiciary in India:
1. It was established under the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968.
2. It makes recommendations regarding the appointment and the transfer of judges in the higher judiciary.
3. Deliberations or discussions under the system come under the ambit of Right to Information by the general public.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

25. The Constitution of India provides certain provisions to ensure the independence of the judiciary. In this context consider the following statements:
1. A person who has been a Judge of the Supreme Court shall not be eligible for further office under the Government of India once they complete their tenure.
2. President to determine the salaries of the Supreme Court judge, rather than the Parliament.
3. The Salaries and pensions of the judges of the Supreme Court are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
4. No discussions shall take place in Parliament with respect to the conduct

of any Judge of the Supreme Court in the discharge of his/her duties expect when a motion for their removal is presented.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 3 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

26. With respect to the Indian Judiciary, consider the following statements:

1. Special Leave Petitions can be filed in the Supreme Court only.
2. The Constitution of India itself provides for the Appeal by Special Leave.
3. Special Leave Petitions can be filed for both civil and criminal matters.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

27. Which of the following doctrines provides that, 'when some particular provision of a statute is against the Constitution, only that offending provision will be declared void by the Court and not the entire statute'?

(a) Doctrine of Pith and Substance
(b) Doctrine of Eclipse
(c) Doctrine of Severability
(d) Doctrine of Colourable Legislation

28. In which of the following cases has the President made reference to the Supreme Court under Article 143 of the Constitution?

1. Berubari Union case
2. Validity of Speaker's decision with regard to disqualification of Members of Parliament under Tenth Schedule
3. Punjab Termination of Agreements Act in 2004
4. Consultation process to be adopted by the Chief Justice of India for the appointment of judges to the Supreme Court
5. 2G spectrum case verdict

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 2, 3 and 4 only
(b) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
(c) 1, 2 and 5 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

29. With reference to the scope of Original Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India, consider the following statements:

1. Under it, the Supreme Court has the power to deal with such cases in the first instance.
2. A dispute regarding elections to either House of the Parliament falls within the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are ***incorrect***?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

30. Which of the following grounds is mentioned in the Constitution for the removal of a Supreme Court Judge?

(a) Proven misbehavior or incapacity
(b) Violation of Constitution
(c) Unsound mind
(d) Charged with insolvency

31. Consider the following statements about the judicial review:

1. The Judicial review is the judiciary's authority to call into question the wisdom of legislation enacted by legislatures.
2. The Judicial review power of the High courts is limited only to the laws enacted by the State government.
3. The judicial review power of the supreme court is limited to ordinary legislation enacted by the parliament and does not apply to constitutional amendment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) None of the above

32. The D.K. Basu guidelines, as laid down by the Supreme Court of India, are related to-

(a) protection of the rights of accused persons during arrest and detention.
(b) preventing and addressing sexual harassment at the workplace.
(c) registration of First Information Reports (FIRs) in cases of cognizable offenses.
(d) providing directions for police reforms in India.

33. The Supreme Court holds its meetings in New Delhi, but it can meet elsewhere-
(a) With the approval of President.
(b) If most of the Judges of Supreme Court decide.
(c) With the approval of Parliament.
(d) On the request of State Legislature.

34. Which of the following actions will most likely fall in the category of 'Contempt of Court'?
(a) Comment on the administrative side of the judiciary.
(b) An act that prejudices the due course of a judicial proceeding.
(c) Criticism of the judicial acts in any manner.
(d) Reporting judicial proceedings without the permission of the Court.

35. Consider the following statements regarding conditions laid down by Constitution to ensure independence of Judiciary in India:
1. appointment of judges to any public office after their retirement is prohibited under the Constitution.
2. The judiciary is not financially dependent on the executive or legislature.
3. The conduct of judges cannot be discussed in Parliament except when the proceeding to remove a judge from his/her office is being carried out in Parliament.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 2 only

36. The Courts in India can adjudicate which of the following types of cases?
1. dispute between two citizens of India
2. A dispute between India and any of its neighboring countries.
3. An International commercial arbitration
4. A dispute between the Centre and any state.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
(b) 1 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

37. With reference to the Public Prosecutor, consider the following statements:
1. S/he plays an active role in the investigation of the case.
2. S/he is appointed by the state on the request of the accused in criminal cases.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

38. Consider the following statements regarding different doctrines applied in the legal jurisprudence in India:
1. The doctrine of 'Severability' provides that only that part of a law is invalid which is inconsistent with the Fundamental Rights.
2. doctrine of 'Colorable Legislation' is invoked when the legislature lacks authority to make law on a specific subject but does so indirectly.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

39. Which one of the following best describes the Rule of 'Locus Standi'?
(a) The rule that a law can be challenged if it violates the constitutional rights of an individual.
(b) The right of any citizen to approach the court in the interest of public welfare.
(c) The principle that only the person whose rights are violated can seek judicial redress.
(d) The doctrine of the supremacy of constitutional laws over ordinary laws.

40. Which of the following is/are the differences between criminal and civil laws in India?
1. Criminal law regulates the infringement of rights of individuals whereas civil law deals with the conduct of an offense.
2. Civil cases usually involve the grant of compensation or relief whereas criminal cases involve punishment in the form of imprisonment or fine.
3. Unlike in civil cases, only the affected parties can file a petition before the court in criminal cases.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

41. Which of the following is the protector of Fundamental Rights of citizens provided under the Part III of the Constitution of India?
(a) President of India
(b) Supreme court of India
(c) Council of ministers
(d) Parliament of India

42. The Constitution of India secures the independence of judiciary by providing that:
1. Parliament cannot discuss the conduct of the judges under any circumstance.
2. Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts have a security of tenure.
3. A Collegium system headed by the Chief Justice of India for the appointment of Judges of higher courts.
4. Salaries and allowances of the judges of the Supreme Court are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

43. Consider the following courts in India:
1. Supreme Court
2. High Court
3. Subordinate Courts
4. Tribunals

Presently how many of the above courts in India have the authority to issue writs as per the Constitution of India?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

44. Which one of the following reflects a correct understanding of the concept of Amicus Curiae?
(a) An official appointed to investigate complaints from the public about government actions or decisions.
(b) An independent adjudicator appointed to resolve disputes between parties outside of the formal judicial system.
(c) A professional mediator who facilitates negotiation between disputing parties to avoid court litigation.
(d) Not a party to a case who assists a court by offering information, expertise, or insight that has a bearing on the issues in the case.

45. With reference to the Supreme Court of India, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The President of India has no power to return the names recommended by the Chief Justice of India (CJI) in matters of appointment of judges to the Supreme Court.

Statement-II: The Supreme Court in the Second Judges Case (1993) ruled that 'consultations' with the CJI in the matters of appointments and transfers of judges to the Supreme Court implies 'concurrence'.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct, and Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

46. Which one of the following best describes the term "judicial dynamism"?
(a) Evolution of the judicial doctrines as per the changing social conditions.
(b) The adaptability of judiciary with the legislative and executive branches based on the changing circumstances.
(c) The power of judiciary to review all the legislative enactments before they are given assent by the President of India.
(d) The proactive role of the Judiciary in the protection of the rights of the citizen.

47. With reference to Indian Judiciary, consider the following statements about the Supreme court:
1. The total strength of the Supreme Court judges is determined by the President of India.
2. The salaries and allowances of the Supreme Court judges are determined by Parliament.

3. All appointments of officers and staffs of the Supreme Court of India are made by the Government only after consulting the Chief Justice of India.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 2 only

48. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: The Constitution of India implicitly confers the power of judicial review over both the Supreme Court as well as High Courts of India.
Statement II: Article 142 of the Constitution of India empowers Supreme Court to do complete justice in any case or matter pending before it.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I.
(b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I.
(c) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(d) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

49. With reference to India, consider the following statements:

1. Government law officers and legal firms are recognized as advocates, but corporate lawyers and patent attorneys are excluded from recognition as advocates.
2. Bar Councils have the power to lay down the rules relating to legal education and recognition of law colleges.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

50. With regard to the powers and jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India, consider the following statements:

1. Election Petitions regarding the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections are filed directly in the Supreme Court.
2. It enquires into the conduct and behavior of the members and chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) on a reference made by the President.
3. It has the power to review its own judgments.

Which of the above statements are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 2 only

51. With regard to the removal of Supreme Court judges, consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution mentions specific grounds for the removal of Supreme Court judges.
2. If a removal motion against a Supreme Court judge is initiated, it does not lapse in case of the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.
3. For the removal motion against a Supreme Court judge to be successful, it must be supported by simple majority in both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

52. With reference to the appointment of Ad-Hoc Judges in Supreme Court of India, consider the following statements:

1. They are appointed by the President of India.
2. They enjoy all the powers and privileges of a judge of the Supreme Court.
3. A person though not a judge of a High Court but recognized as distinguished jurist by the President can be appointed as an ad-hoc judge in the Supreme Court.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

53. Consider the following statements about the Advocate-on-Record (AoR) in the Supreme Court:

1. Only an Advocate-on-Record is entitled to file any matter or document before the Supreme Court.

2. A Senior Advocate is not entitled to appear in the Supreme Court without being accompanied by an Advocate-on-Record.
3. An advocate is required to have practiced for at least four years as an advocate and have one year training under senior Advocate on record, before they can appear for the AoR exam.

Which of the above statements are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 2 only

54. The Supreme Court enjoys a wide appellate jurisdiction. In this context consider the following statements about 'Appeal by Special leave':
1. It is a matter of right for the appellant.
2. It can be granted in any matter except constitutional matters.
3. It can be granted in interlocutory judgements.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 2 only

55. With reference to Advisory jurisdiction of Supreme Court of India, consider the following statements:
1. The President can seek advice from the Supreme Court on any question of law or fact of public importance which is likely to arise.
2. The Supreme Court cannot refuse to tender its opinion to President if the dispute on which advise is asked is of pre constitutional matter.
3. The opinion expressed by the Supreme Court is a judicial pronouncement and hence binding on the President.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

56. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: In India, judges can withdraw from a case in which s/he is involved directly or indirectly.

Statement II: In India, there are codified rules governing recusals.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

57. With reference to Judicial review in India, consider the following statements:
1. The power of Judicial review of courts can be curtailed through an amendment to the constitution.
2. At present, subordinate courts also have the power of judicial review.
3. At present, if any law is placed under the Ninth Schedule of the constitution, it would be exempted from the scope of judicial review.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) None of the above

58. Consider the following statements:
1. The Judicial innovation of 'Collegium system' completely prohibits the Executives interference in appointment of judges in the Supreme Court.
2. Prior written consent of the Chief Justice of India is mandatory for the initiation of impeachment motion against the other judges of the Supreme Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

59. Consider the following with reference to the "Ex-parte injunction or Pre-trial Injunction":
1. It is a court order benefiting one party without notifying or hearing the other party.

2. The Supreme Court of India propounded a three-fold test for granting interim injunctions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

60. With reference to the concepts of legal principles, which of the following statements best describes the 'Doctrine of promissory estoppel'?

(a) A promise becomes legally binding only if it is fulfilled within a specific timeframe.
(b) A promise which can be broken unless it has been explicitly stated in a legally binding contract.
(c) Enforcement of promises given by political parties in its manifesto
(d) A promise that someone relies on and may have suffered losses can be enforced by courts to prevent unfairness.

61. The Indian Constitution has certain borrowed features. In this context, from which of the following sources has the 'integrated system of courts' been adopted?

(a) The Constitution of Ireland
(b) The Constitution of France
(c) The English Common Law
(d) The Government of India Act, 1935

62. Consider the following statements regarding the Supreme Court of India:

1. The Constitution provides for a maximum tenure of 6 years for the Supreme Court Judges.
2. The Constitution explicitly provides the grounds for the removal of a Supreme Court Judge.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

63. In legal context, which of the following statements is correct with reference to "Plea bargaining"?

(a) The Code of Criminal Procedure does not have any provisions related to it.
(b) Under plea bargain, defendant pleads guilty to a lesser offence, and it involves pre-trail negotiations with the prosecution.
(c) It is available for all types of crime, including those which are punishable with death sentence.
(d) Under plea bargain, the defendant pleads guilty to all the charges levied against him by the prosecution to skip the long process of trial.

64. Consider the following statements regarding Supreme Courts's Advisory Jurisdiction:

1. The Constitution of India authorizes the President to seek the opinion of the judiciary on any question of law or fact of public importance.
2. The Supreme Court can refuse to tender its opinion to the President on any question of law or fact of public importance.
3. The Supreme Court can also refuse to tender its opinion on any dispute arising out of any pre-constitution treaty or agreement.
4. The advice tendered by the supreme court is binding on the President of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

65. The Constitution empowers the President of India to appoint "acting Chief Justice of India" in which of the following circumstance(s)?

1. If the Chief Justice of India is unable to perform the duties of his/her office due to absence.
2. When both the houses of the Parliament passed a resolution demanding initiation of impeachment motion against the Chief Justice of India.
3. If the deadlock between Government and Collegium over the appointment of Chief Justice of India persists for more than six months.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

66. With reference to the procedure for removal of judges of Supreme Courts and High Courts in India, consider the following statements:

1. The word "impeachment" is mentioned nowhere in the Constitution of India.
2. The Judges of the Supreme Court can be removed by the President, based on a motion passed by each house of Parliament with special majority.
3. Prior written consent of the Chief Justice of India is mandatory for the initiation of impeachment motion against judges of High courts.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1,2 and 3
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

67. In the context of Indian Judiciary, which of the following best describes the term "Original Jurisdiction"?

(a) Admission of judgements given by the Supreme court as legal precedents in the lower courts.
(b) It consists of all the jurisdictional powers conferred upon the Supreme court on the date of enforcement of Indian constitution.
(c) A territorial limit on the jurisdiction of high courts before large scale reorganization of states in 1956.
(d) Power of the Supreme Court or High Courts to hear and adjudicate certain cases in the first instance.

68. Although Indian judiciary is majorly influenced by the judicial system of the United States of America (USA), there are some differences between them. Which of the following statements are correct regarding these differences?

1. While India has an integrated Judiciary, the USA has a dual system of courts– one to enforce Union laws and other to enforce State laws.
2. The Scope of judicial review is broader in the USA as compared to India.
3. While the Indian Judicial System has a provision for Advisory Jurisdiction, it is absent in the American Judicial system.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

69. In the context of Indian Judiciary, which of the following can be considered as criticisms against the "Collegium system"?

1. It has no power with respect to the transfer of High court judges.
2. The system does not recognize the reservation for underprivileged sections of society while appointing the judges.
3. The system is not part of the original constitution, but it has just evolved through the judgements of the Supreme court.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1,2 and 3

70. "The exclusive original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court extends to the disputes which involve a question, whether of law or fact, on which the existence or extent of a legal right depends." In this context, in which of the following matters the supreme court has the exclusive original jurisdiction?

1. A dispute arising out of any pre-Constitution treaty or agreement.
2. Any dispute between two or more states.
3. Matters related to inter-state water disputes.
4. A dispute between the Centre and any of the states.
5. Matters referred to the finance commission.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 2 and 4 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2,4 and 5 only
(d) 1, 3, and 5 only

71. In the context of Indian Judiciary, Judicial review can be used to ensure which of the following?

1. To ensure Judicial supremacy.
2. To ensure Federal character of Indian constitution.

3. To ensure the constitutionality of executive powers such as ordinance issued by the President and Governors.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

72. With reference to the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), consider the following statements:
1. It is a realization of a provision given in the Fundamental Duties.
2. Only the Chief Justice of a High Court can be appointed as the Executive Chairman of the NALSA.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

73. Consider the following statements regarding the rules of functioning of the Supreme Court of India:
1. The Constitution provides that the Supreme Court can give judgment only with the concurrence of the majority of Judges hearing the case.
2. The Constitution provides for a hearing by at least 7 judges in any case involving substantial question of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

74. Consider the following statements regarding the principle of 'judicial restraint':
1. It helps in maintaining the doctrine of the Separation of Powers.
2. It helps in maintaining the independence of the judiciary.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

4.2. High Courts

75. With reference to supervisory jurisdiction of High Courts in India, consider the following statements:
1. A high court has the power of superintendence over all courts and tribunals functioning in its territorial jurisdiction.
2. Supervisory jurisdiction of a high Court covers both administrative and judicial superintendence.
3. Under supervisory jurisdiction, a high court can act Suo-motu in a case.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

76. With reference to the appointment of subordinate employees in High Courts, consider the following statements:
1. The Chief Justice of the High Court holds the power to appoint a person as an officer or servant in the High Court.
2. The conditions of service of officers and servants of a High Court are prescribed by rules made by the Chief Justice of the High Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

77. Consider the following statements regarding the High Courts in India:
1. The Constitution of India empowers the President to establish a High Court for a Union Territory (UT).
2. Delhi is the only UT to have its own separate High Court.
3. The UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands comes under the jurisdiction of Calcutta High Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

78. With reference to the Writ jurisdiction of High Courts, consider the following statements:

1. Writs can be issued for enforcement of an ordinary legal right.
2. Writ jurisdiction is a part of Basic structure of the Constitution.
3. High Court can never issue writs outside its territorial jurisdiction.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

79. With reference to Indian Judiciary, consider the following statements:

1. The power to increase the number of judges in the High court is vested only with the Governor of the state concerned.
2. Pensions of high court judges are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
3. Salaries and allowance of the high court judges cannot be changed under any circumstances.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

80. With reference to jurisdiction and powers of High Courts in India, consider the following statements:

1. A high court can interpret the Constitutional provisions not only related to the State government but also the Union government.
2. The Constitution empowers the Parliament and the state legislature to change, but not curtail, the jurisdiction and powers of a high court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

81. With reference to High Courts in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution makes no provision for the appointment of a distinguished jurist as a judge of a high court.
2. Only a citizen of India can be appointed as a judge of High Court.
3. A person who holds a judicial office for minimum five years can be appointed as a judge of a high court.
4. The Constitution has not prescribed a minimum age for appointment of a High Court judge.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3 only

82. With reference to removal of the High Court judges in India, consider the following statements:

1. No judge of any high court has been impeached so far since independence.
2. Speaker has discretionary power in admitting the motion of removal.
3. Removal procedure of a high court judge is similar to Supreme Court judge.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

83. Article 215 of the Indian Constitution establishes the High Court as Court of Record, what does this imply?

1. Judgments of High Courts are recognized as legal precedents.
2. High Courts have the power to punish for its contempt.
3. High Courts have the power of superintendence over all courts within their territorial jurisdiction.

Select the answer using code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

84. The power to increase the number of judges in High Courts of India is vested in:

(a) The President of India
(b) Governor of the concerned State.
(c) The Parliament of India.
(d) The Chief Justice of India.

85. With reference to the Writ Jurisdiction of Supreme Court and High Courts in India, consider the following statements:

1. The rule/principle of locus standi applies in case of issuance of all kinds of writs.
2. The Supreme Court can issue writs in case of the violation of Fundamental Rights only.
3. High Courts in India have a wider writ jurisdiction as compared to the Supreme Court of India.
4. Writs can be issued for violation of Fundamental rights by the Lower Courts in India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3
(c) 2, 3 and 4
(d) 1 and 4

86. The writ of Prohibition can be issued by a High Court or the Supreme Court of India against which of the following?

1. A lower court
2. A quasi-judicial body
3. A private individual
4. An administrative agency of Government of India

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

87. In the context of judicial structure in India, consider the following statements:

Statement I: A ruling delivered by the High Court of a state is binding on High Courts or subordinate courts in other states.

Statement II: India has adopted a single, integrated judicial system as part of its constitutional framework.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I.
(b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II does not explain Statement I.
(c) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(d) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

88. Consider the following statement with reference to the transfer of a judge from one High Court to another:

1. The President of India under his/her discretion can transfer a judge from one High court to another.
2. As per the Constitution, a judge being transferred is entitled to the compensatory allowance.
3. The consent of the judge being transferred is mandatory for the transfer.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 3 only

89. Consider the following statements:

Statement - I: High Courts in India can declare any central law as invalid if it violates the provisions of the Constitution.

Statement - II: The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act expanded the scope of judicial review of the High Courts.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

90. Which of the following has the authority to transfer any case, appeal or other proceedings pending before any High Court to any other High Court?

(a) President
(b) Supreme Court
(c) Governor
(d) Chief Justice of the High Court in which the case is being heard

91. With respect to the Constitution of India, which of the following is/are the qualifications for a citizen of India to be

appointed as a judge of a High Court in India?

1. S/he has for at least ten years held a judicial office in the territory of India.
2. S/he has for at least ten years been an advocate of a High Court or of two or more such Courts in succession.
3. S/he is, in the opinion of the President, a distinguished jurist.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

92. With reference to the process of transferring High Courts judges in India, consider the following statements:

1. The President of India has the authority to transfer a High Court judge from one high court to another after consulting with the Chief Justice of India.
2. The decision to transfer High court judge is beyond judicial review.

Which of the statements given above is/are ***incorrect?***

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

93. With reference to Appellate Jurisdiction of High Courts in India, consider the following statements:

1. All High Courts have the authority to review and modify the judgments of any subordinate courts within its territorial jurisdiction.
2. Some High Courts have the authority to hear appeals against the judgments of other High Courts.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

94. With reference to the judges of High Courts, which of the following statements are correct?

1. The strength of the number of judges in a High Court is determined by Parliament.
2. The Chief Justice of a High Court may request a retired High Court judge to serve temporarily as a judge of the same High Court.
3. The President has the authority to appoint a qualified individual as an acting judge of a High Court.

Select the answer using the codes below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, and 3

95. With reference to the High Courts in India, consider the following statements:

1. President of India can extend the jurisdiction of High Courts to a Union Territory.
2. Parliament of India has the power to determine the number of judges in a High Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

96. With reference to different High Courts in India and their territorial jurisdiction over different States/UTs, consider the following pairs:

High Court	Jurisdiction
1. Guwahati	Assam, Sikkim, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh
2. Kerala	Kerla and Lakshadweep
3. Calcutta	West Bengal and Puducherry
4. Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

How many of the pairs given above are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

97. According to the Constitution of India, which of the following type of majority is required in both the Houses of Parliament to remove a judge of the High Court from his/her office?

(a) more than 50% of the total membership in each house only.
(b) more than 50% of the effective strength of each house only.
(c) more than 50% of the total membership in each house and not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting in each house.
(d) more than half of the members present and voting in each house only.

98. With reference to the High Courts in India, consider the following statement:

1. They have original jurisdiction in cases related to settlements of Union-State disputes.
2. They have the authority to hear appeals regarding judgments issued by administrative tribunals, within their territory.
3. They hold advisory jurisdiction when the President of India refers matters of pressing public importance to them.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 3 only

99. Consider the following statement about the Supervisory jurisdiction of High Court:

1. The IIigh Courts in India have supervisory jurisdiction over all the courts and tribunal functioning in its territorial jurisdiction.
2. A High Court can intervene in the rulings of a subordinate court only upon receiving an application from an aggrieved party.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

100. With regard to the transfer of Judges of the High Court, consider the following statements:

1. The Chief Justice of India (CJI) has the authority to transfer a judge from one High Court to another within India.
2. The transfer of judges of a High Court is not subject to judicial review.
3. The consent of the High Court judge being transferred is mandatory to initiate the transfer process.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) None of the above

101. With reference to High Courts in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Parliament is empowered to establish a common High Court for two or more states.
2. The states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana currently have a common High Court.
3. The Parliament can extend the jurisdiction of the High Courts to a Union Territory.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 3 only
(d) 1 and 3

4.3. Subordinate Judiciary

102. With reference to Indian Judiciary, consider the following statements:

1. District judges are appointed by the Governor only after consultation with the State Public Service Commission and the high court of the state.
2. District judge is the highest judicial authority in the district.
3. Sessions' judge has the power to impose life imprisonment but cannot award death sentence.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

103. A Gram Nyayalaya can try which of the following types of offences?

1. Offences related to property Disputes at village level
2. Offences under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955
3. Election disputes related to gram panchayat
4. Offences punishable with imprisonment of more than 7 years
5. Disputes as to the use of forest produce by inhabitants of Gram Panchayats.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1, 2 and 5 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2, 3 and 5 only
(d) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only

104. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Family Courts?
1. They are established under the Legal Services Authorities Act,1987.
2. An appeal against the decision of the family court shall lie to the high court.
3. Parties are provided with help of a legal practitioner as a matter of right in family courts.
4. They are established only by the central government in consultation with the high courts of respective states.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

105. Consider the following statements regarding powers and functioning of Lok Adalats:
1. It has the jurisdiction to settle those matters pending before any court but not the matters which are at pre-litigation stage.
2. It can deal only with matters which are civil in nature, and not criminal matters.
3. An appeal against the judgement of Lok Adalat shall lie to the Supreme court directly.

Which of the statements given above are ***incorrect?***
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

106. Consider the following statements regarding Gram Nyayalaya:
1. It is a non-statutory body.
2. The presiding officer of Gram Nyayalaya shall be appointed by the state government in consultation with the concerned high court.
3. It is mandatory to establish a Gram Nyayalaya at every gram panchayat.
4. It has the power to adjudicate civil as well as criminal cases.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 4 only

107. With reference to the Family Courts in India, consider the following statements:
1. They are established by the State Legislature through a law passed in the respective State Legilslature.
2. As per the Family Court Act, 1984 in cities with a population exceeding one million, it is mandatory to set up a Family Court.
3. In family courts, the parties involved do not have the right to be represented by a legal practitioner.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2
(b) 2 and 3
(c) 3 only
(d) 1 only

108. Consider the following statements regarding the 'District Courts':
1. The judges of the District Courts are appointed by the concerned State High Courts.
2. These Courts exercise both the original and the appellate jurisdictions in civil and criminal matters.
3. These Courts are not authorized to award death sentences in criminal cases.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

109. Which of the following powers are conferred on the District Courts in India?
1. Power to hear and decide on appeals against the judgements of lower courts.
2. Power to punish for the contempt of any subordinate court.
3. Power to decide cases involving heinous criminal offences.
4. Power to examine the constitutionality of orders issued by district administration.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

110. With reference to the subordinate judiciary in India, consider the following statements

1. A person who is already in the service of the state shall be eligible to be appointed as a district judge if so recommended by the State Public Service Commission.
2. The district judges are appointed by the Governor of respective state, after consultation with the State Public Service Commission
3. The authority to transfer cases between district courts lies with the High Court of the respective state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 1, 2, and 3

111. With reference to the Grama Nyayalayas Act, 2008, consider the following statements:

1. The Presiding Officer of a Grama Nyayalaya is appointed by the State Government in consultation with the respective High Court of the state.
2. Grama Nyayalayas have no jurisdiction over criminal cases.
3. The territorial jurisdiction of a Grama Nyayalaya is notified by the High Court of the respective state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

112. Which of the following bodies has the authority to establish a Commercial court at the district level?

(a) State Government
(b) State Legislature
(c) High Court of the respective state
(d) District Planning Committee

113. With reference to the Mediation Act, 2023, consider the following statements:

1. It provides for the establishment of the Arbitration Council of India to oversee mediation processes.
2. Settlement agreements resulting from mediation under the Act will be binding and enforceable in the same manner as a court judgment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

114. Appointment of persons (other than district judges) to the judicial service of a state is made by the-

(a) High Court
(b) State Public Service Commission
(c) Governor
(d) Chief Minister

115. With reference to 'Nari Adalats', consider the following statements:

1. It does not hold a legal status.
2. District Judge appoints the head of the Nari Adalat under his/her territorial jurisdiction.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor

4.4. Judicial Activism

116. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Public Interest Litigation (PIL)':

1. This concept was originated in the United States of America.
2. It requires a stricter application of the rule of '*locus standi*'.
3. It is based on the non-adversarial system of litigation.

Which of the statements given above is/ are ***incorrect***?

(a) 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

117. Consider the following statements regarding 'judicial review' and the 'judicial activism':

1. The concept of 'judicial review' originated in United States, whereas 'judicial activism' is an Indian innovation.

2. The term 'judicial review' is mentioned in the Constitution, whereas 'judicial activism' is not mentioned in the Constitution.
3. Both 'judicial review' as well as 'judicial activism' are the parts of basic structure of the Constitution.

Which of the statements given above are ***incorrect***?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

118. With reference to Indian Judiciary, consider the following statements:
1. While Judicial activism is the power of Judiciary to review its own judgements, Judicial review is the power of judiciary to examine the constitutionality of laws.
2. While Judicial activism is a proactive role played by the judiciary, judicial overreach is the judicial encroachment into the domains of legislature or/and executive.
3. While Judicial activism denotes the role of judiciary in policy making, Judicial restraint means non-interference by judiciary in policy making.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

119. Consider the following statements regarding Public Interest Litigation (PIL):
1. It is mentioned under Article 142 of the Constitution of India.
2. It can be filed in the High Courts under Article 226 of the Indian Constitution.
3. Petitions related to private disputes, such as landlord-tenant issues or service matters are not entertained as a PIL.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

120. With regard to the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in India, consider the following statements:
1. The concept of PIL is not explicitly defined in statutes or acts but rather interpreted by judicial interventions.
2. The case of Sunil Batra vs. Delhi Administration (1980) played a significant role in the development of Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in India.
3. Only an aggrieved person can file a PIL in the Judiciary.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

4.5. Tribunals & Important Judgements

121. The Supreme Court's judgement in this case for the first time had placed the Right to Livelihood as a part of the Right to Life under Article 21 of the Constitution. The case referred to here is:
(a) Maneka Gandhi vs Union of India (1978)
(b) Balaji Raghavan vs Union of India (1996)
(c) M. Nagaraj vs Union of India (2006)
(d) Olga Tellis vs Bombay Municipal Corporation (1985)

122. With reference to the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT), consider the following statements:
1. It is a statutory body established under the provisions of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985.
2. The Presiding officer is appointed by the Chief Justice of India.
3. It can hear and dispose-off appeals against orders passed by the SEBI (Securities and Exchange board of India) only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None of the above

123. With reference to the differences between Cognizable offences and non-Cognizable offences, consider the following statements:
1. Unlike Non-cognizable offences, Cognizable offences are those in which the police can arrest an accused without a warrant.
2. All Cognizable offences are bailable whereas all non-Cognizable offences are non-bailable.
3. Generally, Non-cognizable offences are less serious in nature as compared to Cognizable offences.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

124. With reference to the First Information Report (FIR) under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023, consider the following statements:
1. It is mandatory for the police to register an FIR upon receiving information about a cognizable offence.
2. The FIR usually mentions the date, time and place of the offence.
3. The complainant has the legal right to receive a free copy of the FIR from the police.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

125. With reference to Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), consider the following statements:
1. Its chairman is appointed by the President of India after consultation with the Chief Justice of India.
2. A person can present his/her case before the tribunal only through a legal practitioner
3. It handles service matters of public servants, including Parliamentary secretarial staff.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

126. With reference to Indian polity, consider the following bodies:
1. National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)
2. Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)
3. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
4. Finance Commission of India
5. National Investigation Agency (NIA)

How many of the above are quasi-judicial bodies?
(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

127. With reference National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, consider the following statements:
1. It is a quasi-judicial statutory body.
2. The members of the commission are appointed for a fixed tenure and not eligible for reappointment.
3. It deals with the complaint from the consumers with the value of goods and services which exceeds more than two crores.
4. The appeal against the decision of the commission can be filed in Supreme Court of India

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

128. Article 323A and Article 323B of the Constitution relate to the establishment of tribunals for adjudicating disputes. With reference to their provisions, consider the following statements:
1. Article 323A provides for establishment of Administrative Tribunals only, while Article 323B allows for creation of tribunals for other matters like tax and industrial disputes.
2. Article 323A allows both Parliament and State Legislatures to create tribunals, while Tribunals under Article 323B can be established only by the Parliament.
3. Article 323A envisages a system of hierarchy of tribunals, whereas Article 323B doesnot envisages the establishment of a hierarchical framework of tribunals.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

129. With reference to the filing of a charge sheet in a criminal case, which one of the following statements is *incorrect*?

(a) A charge sheet is the final report filed by the investigating officer after completing the investigation.
(b) It is mandatory to file a charge sheet in both cognizable and non-cognizable offences.
(c) If the charge sheet is not filed within the prescribed time, the accused has the right to seek default bail.
(d) The filing of a charge sheet initiates the formal commencement of a criminal trial.

130. With reference to National Green Tribunal (NGT), consider the following statements:

1. It is mandatory to resolve applications or appeals filed before the tribunal within twelve months of their filing.
2. It deals with civil cases related to wildlife under Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
3. The orders passed by NGT are only recommendatory in nature.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None

131. Consider the following statements about the State of Madras v. Srimathi Champakam Dorairajan case, 1951:

In this case, the Supreme Court held that:

1. Parliament does not have the power to amend Fundamental Rights.
2. caste-based reservations in the admissions to educational institutions are unconstitutional.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

132. Consider the following statements regarding State Administrative Tribunals (SATs) in India:

1. The central government issues the notification for the set up of SATs.
2. The Chairman and other members of a State Administrative Tribunal are appointed by the President of India.
3. The Constitution mandates every state to establish at least one State Administrative Tribunal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) None of the above

133. Consider the following categories of employees:

1. Servants of the Supreme Court
2. Secretarial staff of the Parliament
3. Members of the All India Services

How many of the above categories of employees come under the scope of the jurisdiction of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT)?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

134. Consider the following statements:

Statement–I : Both Parliament and State legislatures can create tribunals related to taxation.

Statement–II : Article 323B of the Constitution empowers both Parliament and State legislatures to establish tribunals for various purposes.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement–I and Statement–II are correct and Statement–II explains Statement–I
(b) Both Statement–I and Statement–II are correct, but Statement–II does not explain Statement–I
(c) Statement–I is correct, but Statement–II is incorrect
(d) Statement–I is incorrect, but Statement–II is correct

135. With reference to the concept of Zero FIR in India, consider the following statements:

1. It can be filed in any police station by the victim, irrespective of the place of occurrence of the crime.
2. The provision of Zero FIR was introduced on the recommendation of the Justice Verma Committee.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

136. Supreme Court in this case upheld the validity of sedition law and stated that the effect of subverting the Government by violent means or creating public disorder would come within the definition of sedition. In which one of the following landmark cases, did Supreme Court held the above given statement?
(a) Kedarnath Singh vs State of Bihar (1962)
(b) Golaknath vs State of Punjab (1967)
(c) Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala (1973)
(d) State of Madras vs Champakam Dorairajan (1951)

137. Consider the following violations/offences:
1. Driving under the influence of alcohol.
2. An individual stealing from a local grocery store.
3. A company breaches a contract with a client by failing to deliver goods on time.
4. Selling of illegal drugs on a tourist spot.

How many of the above violations/offences fall under the purview of criminal laws in India?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

138. Consider the following statements:
1. In case of a Compoundable offence, the complainant can enter into a compromise with the accused.
2. In case of a non-cognizable offence, the police can arrest an accused without a warrant.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

139. A 'Tribunal' is a body tasked with discharging quasi-judicial functions with the primary objective of providing a special forum for specific types of disputes and for faster and more efficacious adjudication of issues. In this context which of the following Constitutional Amendments added a new Part XIV-A titled 'Tribunals' to the Indian Constitution?
(a) 1st Amendment
(b) 39th Amendment
(c) 42nd Amendment
(d) 44th Amendment

140. Consider the following matters:
1. Matters related to levy, assessment, collection and enforcement of any tax.
2. Matters related the Constitutional interpretation to resolve legal disputes between the Centre and the States in India.
3. Matters related to resolve industrial and labour disputes
4. Matters related to the rent regulation and control

On how many of the matters given above, the Tribunals can be established by competent legislatures under Article 323B of the Constitution of India?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

141. With reference to the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), consider the following statements:
1. All India Service officers can directly approach the CAT to redress their service-related grievances.
2. The Chief Justice of India's approval is mandatory for the appointment of members in CAT.
3. Unlike Judiciary, the CAT is not bound by the procedure laid down in the Civil Procedure Code.
4. Appeals against the order of CAT can be made only in the Supreme Court.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

142. With reference to the landmark Supreme Court Judgements in the history of India, consider the following pairs:

Case	Verdict
1. Maneka Gandhi Case	Right to Personal Liberty is a Fundamental Right

2. A.K. Gopalan Case	Abolition of all privileges and titles to princely rulers.
3. Kihoto Hollohan Case	Judicial review of decision of the Speaker of the house under the Tenth Schedule

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

143. "In this case, the Supreme Court of India decriminalized homosexuality. It struck down select provisions of Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code. The court asserted the LGBTQ community's fundamental rights, highlighting the principles of equality (Article 14) and inclusiveness."

The above description refers to which of the following cases?
(a) K. S. Puttaswamy case
(b) Suresh Kumar Koushal case
(c) Navtej Singh Johar case
(d) National Legal Services Authority case

144. Which of the following is the correct description for the term 'Cognizable offence', often used in Indian Jurisprudence?
(a) Offence in which bail is not allowed in any condition.
(b) Offence in which police can arrest an accused without the permission of the court.
(c) Offenses of the nature like assault, defamation, and public nuisance which are of major threat.
(d) Offence in which police need a magistrate's approval to begin an investigation.

145. In Minerva Mills vs Union of India- The supreme court struck down certain provisions of the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976, as it exceeded the amending power of Parliament. However, the remaining provisions of the Act were upheld and considered valid.

Which of the following doctrines was invoked by the concerned court while addressing the above-given issue?
(a) Doctrine of Colourable Legislation
(b) Doctrine of Res Judicata
(c) Doctrine of severability
(d) Doctrine of Parens Patriae

146. The Supreme court in various cases included/reiterated various provisions as the basic features of the constitution. In this context, consider the following pairs:

Cases	Provisions included/reiterated as the Basic features
1. Kesavananda Bharati case	Federal character of the constitution.
2. Minerva Mills case	Harmony between Fundamental rights and Directive principles.
3. S.R. Bommai case	Principle of secularism
4. M. Nagaraj case	Free and fair elections

How many of the above given pairs are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

147. With reference to 'Commercial Courts' in India, consider the following statements:
1. They are constituted by the respective state governments.
2. Commercial disputes must have a minimum value of 3 lakh rupees to be eligible for adjudication by a Commercial Court.
3. There shall be compulsory pre-institution mediation before filing a suit in commercial court, provided that an urgent interim relief is not sought.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

148. With reference to Indian polity, 'Preamble' was recognised as a part of the Indian constitution for the first time by the Supreme Court of India in which of the following cases?
(a) Golaknath & Others v State of Punjab and Anrs.
(b) Sri Sankari Prasad Singh Deo vs Union of India and State of Bihar
(c) Kesavananda Bharati v State of Kerala
(d) Union Government Vs LIC of India

149. The landmark 'Lilly Thomas judgement' given by the Supreme Court of India is related to which one of the following?

(a) Recognition of political parties and allotment of Election symbols
(b) Government's right to suspend the fundamental right to life during an emergency
(c) Disqualification of Members of Parliament or the state Legislature
(d) making the Right to livelihood a fundamental right under the Constitution of India.

150. With respect to the Indian judicial system, which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding 'charge sheet'?

1. It is the final report prepared by a police officer or investigative agency after completing their investigation.
2. Non-filing of the charge sheet within the prescribed time gives the accused the 'right to default bail'.
3. It is a public document and must be made publicly available.

Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

151. How tribunals under Article 323A are different from tribunals under Article 323B of Indian Constitution?

1. Article 323A contemplates establishment of tribunals for public service matters only, while Article 323B contemplates establishment of tribunals for certain other matters also.
2. Tribunals under Article 323A can be established only by Parliament, whereas tribunals under Article 323B can be established both by Parliament and state legislatures.
3. There is hierarchy of tribunal under Article 323A, whereas no hierarchy of tribunals can be created under Article 323B.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

152. Consider the following statements:

As per the landmark Kesavananda Bharati case (1973) judgement, -

1. the power of Parliament to amend the Constitution was restricted by the doctrine of the basic structure.
2. the right to travel abroad was identified as a fundamental right under Article 21 of Constitution of India.
3. the Fundamental Rights enshrined in the Constitution of India cannot be amended by Parliament.
4. the element of Judicial Review was included under the ambit of basic structure doctrine.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

153. Consider the following statements in respect of First Information Report (FIR):

1. An FIR cannot be filed by police for non-cognizable offences without the permission of court.
2. An FIR must be documented in writing by the responding police officer, regardless of whether the complaint is made orally.
3. An accused is entitled to obtain a copy of the FIR filed against him/her.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

154. Consider the following pairs regarding the Supreme court ruling with respect to the relation between Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs) and Fundamental Rights (FRs):

Supreme Court Case	Ruling
1. The State of Madras vs Srimathi Champakam Dorairajan, 1951	Parliament can make laws to implement DPSP even if it overrides Fundamental Rights.

2. Golaknath v. State of Punjab, 1967	Parliament cannot amend Fundamental Rights for the purpose of implementing DPSPs.
3. Kesavananda Bharati & Ors vs State of Kerala case,1973	Parliament can amend Fundamental Rights to implement DPSPs, but cannot alter the basic structure of the Constitution

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

155. In the context of India, consider the following bodies:

1. Reserve bank of India
2. Finance Commission
3. Election Commission of India
4. National Human Rights Commission
5. Union Public Service Commission

How many of the above are quasi-judicial bodies?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

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SOLUTIONS

4.1. The Supreme Court

1. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Judicial review in India refers to the **power of the Judiciary**, specifically Supreme Court and the High Courts, to **examine the constitutionality of any law**. If the court concludes that a law is inconsistent with the provisions of the Indian Constitution, it has the authority to declare the law unconstitutional and inapplicable.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The term "judicial review" is nowhere mentioned in the Constitution of India. However, the power of judicial review is implied from several provisions of the constitution.

For instance, **Article 13** ensures that laws inconsistent with or in derogation of fundamental rights are void. **Articles 32 and 226** empower the Supreme Court and High Courts respectively to issue writs for the enforcement of fundamental rights. These provisions together imply the power of judicial review.

Statement 2 is correct: The **Supreme Court** of India has the **power to examine the constitutionality of laws enacted by both the Central and State legislatures**, as well as executive orders issued by both Central and State governments.

If a law or order is found to violate the Constitution (i.e., it is **ultra vires**), the Court has the authority to declare it **unconstitutional, illegal, and invalid**. Such laws or executive actions are then considered null and void, meaning they cannot be enforced by the government.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The **principle of judicial review in India was inspired by the model of the United States, not the United Kingdom (UK)**. The principle of judicial review was established by the Supreme Court of the United States through the landmark case **Marbury v. Madison** in 1803.

The **UK** follows the principle of **parliamentary sovereignty** (where no court can overturn an Act of Parliament), India's system of judicial review is based on the idea that the Constitution is the supreme law, and the judiciary has the authority to review the constitutionality of laws.

2. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 21 of the Constitution of India guarantees the Right to Life and states that a person's life or liberty can be taken away only by following a reasonable and just legal procedure. A fair trial ensures that Article 21 of the Constitution is upheld. Following are the elements of fair trial:

- **Option 1 is correct:** The **accused should be defended by a lawyer.** This lawyer must be given an opportunity to cross-examine all the prosecution witnesses and to present witnesses in the accused's defence.
- **Option 2 is correct:** The **accused must be given a copy of the chargesheet and all other evidence that the prosecution presented against her.** The trial must be held in an open court, in public view. The family and relatives of the accused could attend the court hearings. The trial must be held in the presence of the accused.
- **Option 3 is correct:** The **judge must assume that the accused is innocent until proven guilty,** even though the police have filed the case against him/her.
- **Option 4 is correct:** The **prosecution must prove beyond reasonable doubt that the accused is guilty.** The judge should remain impartial and should decide matters only on the basis of the evidence before the court.

3. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

A writ is a formal written order issued by a court or legal authority, instructing a person or institution to act or refrain from acting in a particular manner. In Indian law, writs are primarily issued by the Supreme Court and High Courts under Articles 32 and 226 of the Constitution, respectively.

Under **Article 32**, the Supreme Court has the power to issue writs only for the enforcement of fundamental rights. However, **Article 139 empowers Parliament to enact laws granting the Supreme Court authority to issue writs**, including habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, quo warranto, and certiorari, for purposes other than **the enforcement of Fundamental Rights.**

Important Tips

Writ jurisdiction of High Courts is wider than Supreme court :

- It is governed by **Article 226** of the Indian Constitution.
- It empowers the High Courts to issue writs not only for the enforcement of fundamental rights but also for any other legal rights within its territorial jurisdiction.

4. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Certain qualifications have been prescribed for the judges of the Supreme Court to ensure their integrity and efficacy, in **Article 124(3) of the Constitution of India**. They should be a citizen of India.

Option 1 is incorrect. The age of a Judge of the Supreme Court shall be determined by such authority and in such manner as Parliament may by law provide. **There is no such law or any constitutional provision that prescribes any minimum age for the qualification of the Supreme Court judge.**

Option 2 is correct. A person who has been a **High Court judge for 5 years** can be appointed as the judge of the Supreme Court of India.

Option 3 is correct. A person who has been an **advocate at the High Court for 10 years** can be appointed as the judge of the Supreme Court of India.

Option 4 is correct. A person who is a **distinguished jurist in the opinion of the President of India** can be appointed as the judge of the Supreme Court of India.

5. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

In India, contempt is governed by the **Contempt of Courts Act, 1971, and Articles 129 & 215** of the Constitution give the Supreme Court and High Courts the power to punish for contempt.

Option 1 is correct: When a party intentionally **disobeys a court's legally binding order, decree, or direction, it amounts to civil contempt.** The purpose is to secure compliance with the court's decision.

Option 2 is incorrect: Any publication or act which **prejudices or interferes with the due course of any judicial proceeding** would amount to **criminal contempt of court.** Interference during the proceeding of the case causes interruption to administration of justice.

Option 3 is incorrect: This is explicitly categorized under **criminal contempt (Section 2(c)(i)).** Such acts **scandalize the court or diminish public respect** for the judiciary i.e. lowers the authority of court.

Option 4 is incorrect: Obstruction of justice, such as intimidating witnesses or disrupting proceedings, falls under **criminal contempt (Section 2(c)(iii)).** Civil contempt deals strictly with **compliance-related issues,** not interference with court functioning.

6. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Legal doctrines are **established principles that guide judicial reasoning.** Some doctrines are procedural (i.e., related to litigation process), while others deal with interpretation and application of judicial decisions. Understanding these principles is crucial to analyzing how courts ensure **judicial consistency, fair trial,** and **efficient dispute resolution.**

Option a is correct. The Henderson doctrine originates from the English case Henderson v. Henderson (1843). It is a subset of the broader principle of res judicata. The doctrine states that **all matters that could and should have been raised in the original suit** must be raised there, otherwise, they are barred from being raised in later litigation. This means a party cannot split their claims across multiple suits if they arise from the **same subject matter.** Courts expect the entire case, all issues and arguments, to be brought forward in one go. This promotes **finality of judgments,** judicial economy, and prevents harassment of the opposing party through piecemeal litigation.

Option b is incorrect. The doctrine of stare decisis is a fundamental principle in common law systems. It means "to stand by things decided." According to this doctrine, courts are bound to follow the legal principles established in earlier decisions, especially those of higher courts. The purpose of this doctrine is to ensure legal certainty, consistency, and predictability in the judicial system. When a higher court such as the Supreme Court interprets a law or constitutional provision in a particular way, lower courts are expected to follow that interpretation in future cases involving similar facts or legal issues. This doctrine promotes stability in the legal system by discouraging courts from departing from established precedents without strong justification. However, it also allows for the possibility of overruling past decisions if they are deemed to be incorrect or outdated.

Option c is incorrect. The doctrine of pith and substance is a constitutional doctrine used in the context of legislative powers in a federal system. It is used to determine the true nature or essence of a law when there is a conflict between laws made by the Centre and the States under different entries in the Union, State, or Concurrent Lists of the Seventh Schedule. Under this doctrine, a law is considered valid if its main subject (its "pith and substance") falls within the legislative competence of the legislature that enacted it, even if it incidentally touches upon a subject in another list. For example, if a state law primarily relates to public order (a State List subject), it remains valid even if it incidentally affects a Union List subject like communications.

Option d is incorrect. The doctrine of lis pendens is a principle in property law. It is codified in Section 52 of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882. The term "lis pendens" means "pending litigation." According to this doctrine, when a suit involving rights in immovable property is pending before a competent court, no party to the suit can transfer or otherwise deal with that property in a way that affects the rights of the other party. This applies from the time the suit is filed until the final judgment is delivered.The rationale behind this doctrine is to maintain the status quo and prevent the subject matter of the litigation from being altered or alienated while the case is still being adjudicated. Any transfer made during the pendency of a suit is subject to the outcome of that litigation.

7. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is incorrect: The Doctrine of Pith and Substance is about determining the true nature or essence of a law, and whether it primarily concerns a subject within the jurisdiction of the appropriate legislative body. It does not automatically render a law unconstitutional if it falls outside a legislature's domain. **The law can still be valid if its true substance falls within the appropriate domain, even if it incidentally touches on matters outside that domain.**

Pair 2 is correct: Doctrine of Colourable legislation is based on the principle that what cannot be done directly cannot be done indirectly. **If a legislature enacts a law outside its competence by disguise or indirect means, it is invalid.**

Pair 3 is incorrect: Doctrine of Territorial Nexus allows a state law to have extra-territorial application if there is a sufficient nexus between the state and the object of the law. It allows a law to have extraterritorial operation if there exists a sufficient connection between the state enacting the law and the subject matter outside the state.

8. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

On November 26, 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India officially adopted the Constitution of India, which came into effect on January 26, 1950. November 26 is commemorated annually as Constitution Day (since 2015) and National Law Day (since 1979) to honour this historic event since 2015.

Statement I is correct: Samvidhan Divas, or **National Law Day, is observed annually in India on November 26 to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution**. The initiative was first proposed by former Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) president Laxmi Mall Singhvi in 1979. The day is marked by events across the judiciary, including Supreme Court and High Court bar associations, as well as district and mofussil courts, involving judges, staff, and legal professionals.

Statement II is incorrect: The Supreme Court of India was established on January 26, 1950, coinciding with the day India became a Republic. It succeeded the Federal Court of India, which functioned from 1937 to 1949.

As **National Law Day** is observed on November 26 every year **to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution, option c is correct:** Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect

9. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the incorrect answer.

The term 'Puisne' is a legal term that originated in France and means **'junior' or 'inferior' in rank.**

In common law jurisdictions like India, **Puisne Judges refer to all the judges of a court, other than the Chief Justice of the court.** The term is used to refer to the order of seniority for appointments and elevations to High Courts. It doesn't affect a judge's judicial power.

Thus in the Context of the Supreme Court, the puisne judges refer to all the judges of the Supreme Court other than the Chief Justice of India.

10. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968** regulates and gives details about the procedure relating to the removal of the judge of a Supreme Court by the process of impeachment.

Statement 1 is incorrect. A Supreme Court judge may be removed from office through a motion adopted by Parliament on grounds of 'proven misbehaviour or incapacity'.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Under the **Judges (Inquiry) Act,** an impeachment motion may originate in either house of parliament. To initiate proceedings: (i) **at least 100 members of Lok Sabha** may give a signed notice to the speaker, or (ii) **at least 50 members of Rajya Sabha** may give a signed notice to the chairman.

Thus the speaker of Lok Sabha can can accept the motion of removal of the Supreme Court judge only if it is supported by 100 members of Lok Sabha not 50.

Statement 3 is correct. The Presiding Officer may consult individuals and examine relevant material related to the notice. Based on this, **he/she may decide to either admit or refuse to admit the motion for the removal of Judge of the Supreme Court.**

Statement 4 is incorrect. No judge of the Supreme Court of India has been impeached in the independent history of the country. Impeachment motions of **Justice V Ramaswami (1991–1993)** and the then Chief Justice **Dipak Misra (2017-18)** were defeated in the Parliament.

11. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 124 (1) of the Constitution of India provides for a Supreme Court (SC) of India consisting of a Chief Justice of India and until Parliament by law prescribes a larger number, of not more than seven other judges. The current number of other judges is thirty-three.

Statement a is correct: The Chief Justice of India (CJI) is the **'master of the roster'. The CJI decides which cases will be heard by a Constitution Bench, the number of judges on the bench and even its composition.** While there are no clear guidelines, the sole discretion lies with the CJI. It is **not binding on the CJI to be a part of a Constitution Bench.**

1. A constitutional bench is typically **composed of five or more judges** and is specifically convened for cases involving any substantial question of law to interpret or address constitutional issues.
2. **Article 145(3) provides for the setting up of a Constitution Bench.** It says a **minimum of five judges** need to sit for deciding a case involving a **"substantial question of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution",** or for hearing any reference under Article 143, which deals with the power of the President to consult the SC.

Statement b is incorrect: Under **Article 127**, the CJI can appoint **a High Court judge (not a district judge) to serve as an ad hoc Judge of the Supreme Court**, to fill in for a temporary period when there is no Quorum. However, before making such an appointment, the **CJI must first get the President's consent and consult with the Chief Justice of the relevant High Court.**

The Judge chosen must be qualified to serve on the Supreme Court and while serving as an ad-hoc Judge, s/he enjoys all the power and privileges of a judge of the Supreme Court.

Statement c is correct: According to **Article 128,** the **CJI can ask a retired judge to sit and act as a Supreme Court Judge** for a limited term. However, the **CJI must get the**

prior consent of the President of India and that of the retired judge. Thus, any retired judge of the Supreme Court of India can be called back to sit and act as a Supreme Court judge by the Chief Justice of India with prior permission of the President of India.

Statement d is correct: Article 130 of the Constitution designates Delhi as the seat of the Supreme Court of India. It also **empowers the CJI with the President's approval, to establish other locations as seats of the Supreme Court.** However, this provision remains discretionary rather than mandatory.

Important Tips

No court has the authority to issue directives to either the President or the CJI to designate any other place as the seat of the Supreme Court.

12. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)** was established under the **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987** to provide **free and competent legal services** to the **weaker sections of society** and to ensure that **opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen due to economic or other disabilities**, in line with **Article 39A of the Indian Constitution**.

It was **constituted in 1995** and functions as the **apex body** for laying down policies, principles, and guidelines for **legal aid programs** and for coordinating the activities of **State Legal Services Authorities, District Legal Services Authorities**, and **Taluka Legal Services Committees** across the country.

Statement 1 is correct: The **Chief Justice of India (CJI) is designated as the Patron-in-Chief of NALSA**, while the **second senior-most judge of the Supreme Court serves as its Executive Chairman**. This hierarchical structure ensures the involvement of the highest judicial authority in overseeing legal aid delivery in the country.

Statement 2 is correct: NALSA is entrusted with the responsibility of **disbursing funds and issuing guidelines for the implementation of legal aid, legal awareness programs, and related schemes** throughout India. It coordinates with State Legal Services Authorities (SLSA), District Legal Services Authorities (DLSA), and Taluka Legal Services Committees to ensure effective legal aid delivery, especially to marginalized and weaker sections of society.

Important Tips

1. NALSA works to promote **equal access to justice** through mechanisms such as **Lok Adalats** and **legal literacy programs**.
2. It facilitates **free legal aid** to several categories including members of **Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, women, children, disabled persons**, and those **in custody**, as defined under **Section 12 of the Act**.
3. It also supports the setting up of **Legal Aid Cells in jails** and funds state-level legal aid institutions.
4. Special provisions have been made for **senior citizens** and **transgender persons** (e.g., income limit of ₹2 lakh for transgender persons in Delhi).

13. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

A writ can be defined as a **written order issued by a court of higher authority.** The Constitution of India has empowered the Supreme Court and the High Courts to issue writs under **Articles 32 and 226** respectively.

Statement-I is correct: The Supreme Court and the High Courts differ in their writ jurisdictions in several key ways. The **writ jurisdiction of the high courts is wider than that of the Supreme Court** as the Supreme Court can issue writs **solely for enforcing Fundamental rights**, while a **High Court can do so for both Fundamental rights and other purposes.**

Statement-II is correct and is the correct explanation of Statement-I: The Supreme Court can issue writs only for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights and not for other purposes. In this case, the writ jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is concurrent in nature and not exclusive i.e. concurrent with High Courts. The **writ jurisdiction of the High Court not only allows it to issue writs for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights but also for the enforcement of other legal rights. This means that the writc jurisdiction of High courts is wider than that of the Supreme Court.**

Statement-III is incorrect: The Supreme Court can issue writs both against public bodies and private individuals. For example, the **writ of habeas corpus,** which is issued to protect individual liberty against unlawful imprisonment, **applies to both public authority and private individuals.**

The same applies with respect to High Courts as well.

14. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 126 of the Constitution of India deals with matters related to appointment of acting Chief Justice of India and grounds related to it.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 126 empowers the President of India to appoint acting Chief Justice of India, if the Chief Justice of India is unable to perform the duties of his/her office because of absence or otherwise. Further the President can appoint acting chief justice if the office of Chief Justice of India is vacant.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The constitution provides no such provision for appointment of acting Chief Justice of India (CJI) when Parliament passes a resolution demanding removal motion against CJI.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The constitution provides no such ground to appoint acting CJI i.e., if the deadlock between Government and Collegium over the appointment of Chief Justice of India persists for more than six months.

Important Tips

Additional Judge of a High Court:

- Additional Judges can be appointed by the President under clause (1) of Article 224 of the Constitution.
- The President can appoint duly qualified persons as additional judges of a high court for a temporary period not exceeding two years when:
  - There is a temporary increase in the business of the high court; or
  - There are arrears of work in the high court.
- No person appointed as an additional or acting Judge of a High Court shall hold office after attaining the age of sixty-two years.

15. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Legal Services includes providing-

1. free Legal Aid to the weaker sections of society,
2. creating legal awareness by spreading legal literacy through legal awareness camps, print media, digital media and
3. organizing Lok Adalats for the amicable settlement of disputes which are either pending or which are yet to be filed, by way of compromise.

Statements 1 and 2 are correct: Free legal aid is the provision of free legal services i**n civil and criminal matters** for those poor and marginalized people who cannot afford the services of a lawyer for the conduct of a case or a l**egal proceeding in any Court, Tribunal or Authority.**

Statement 3 is correct: Free legal aid is applicable at any stage of the case even at appeal, as long as the person is eligible to attain free legal services as per Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

16. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

A judge of the Supreme Court can be removed from his office by an order of the President after a motion passed by the Parliament. **In the process of removal of Judges, the Constitution empowers the 'Legislators' to 'Judge'.**

Statement 1 is correct: According to Article 124 of the Constitution of India, a judge of the Supreme Court **can be removed only on the grounds of proven misbehaviour or incapacity.** The Constitution neither defines nor gives details of what constitutes 'proved misbehaviour or incapacity'.

Statement 2 is incorrect: A motion containing the charges against the judge **must be approved by a special majority in both Houses of Parliament.**

- According to **Article 124 (4)** of the Constitution of India, a Judge of the Supreme Court shall not be removed from his office except by an order of the President passed after an address by **each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-third of the members of the House present and voting** has been presented to the President in the same session for such removal on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Constitution mandates that the motion for removal must be presented to the President in the same session. **Notably, such motions do not lapse on the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.**

17. Solution: (b)

Exp) option b is the correct answer.

Judicial Restraint is a legal philosophy followed by courts. It refers to the principle that the judiciary should not interfere in the functions of the legislature or the executive unless there is a clear and undeniable violation of the Constitution or established law.

This principle flows from the **doctrine of separation of powers**, which assigns distinct roles to the legislature, executive, and judiciary. Courts that follow judicial restraint recognize that **law-making and policy formulation** are the primary responsibility of the legislature and the executive.

Judicial restraint reflects a **conservative approach**, where judges show deference to the decisions of the elected branches. Courts do not strike down laws or government actions **merely on the ground that they are unwise or undesirable**. They intervene only when there is a **violation of constitutional provisions**, principles of natural justice, or when fundamental rights are infringed.

This is contrasted with judicial activism, where courts adopt an assertive role, sometimes stepping into policy domains.

18. Solution: (c)

Exp) option c is the correct answer.

The **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987** is aimed at providing **free legal aid to people who cannot afford legal representation.** The act establishes a framework for the delivery of legal services to various sections of society who are disadvantaged or vulnerable, ensuring access to justice for all citizens, regardless of their financial condition.

Option 1 is correct: Women, regardless of their income or financial status, are eligible to avail of free legal aid under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. The Act specifically provides free legal services to women, recognizing that they may face financial and social disadvantages.

Option 2 is correct: A **child under the age of 18 years is eligible for free legal aid.** The Act extends legal services to minors, ensuring that children who face legal issues are provided assistance regardless of their financial situation.

Option 3 is incorrect: While individuals in the **EWS category** (economically weaker sections) may face financial difficulties, they are **not automatically entitled** to free legal aid under the Act. The law provides free legal services to individuals whose **annual income is below a certain threshold**, but the EWS category is a broader socio-economic classification and does not necessarily guarantee eligibility for legal aid unless their income qualifies.

Option 4 is correct: Victims of trafficking in human beings or **victims of begar** are vulnerable and may face serious legal, social, and economic hardships. To ensure their access to justice, they are provided with **free legal services** under the **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.**

19. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 138(1) states that "The Supreme Court shall have such further jurisdiction and powers with respect to any of the matters in the Union List as the Parliament may by law confer on it." It means, if Parliament wants to expand the Court's jurisdiction, whether in civil, criminal, or constitutional matters, it can do so **by passing a regular law,** like any other ordinary bill. Additionally, **Article 138(2)** allows Parliament to enact laws based on an agreement between the Centre and one or more states, further expanding the Court's reach in inter-governmental issues. This reflects a **balance between flexibility and constitutional structure** — ensuring the judiciary's role can evolve, but only through the legislative process.

Option a is incorrect. The President can seek the **Court's advisory opinion under Article 143.** However, this is not an expansion of jurisdiction. It is a one-time consultative mechanism. The President has no power to permanently enlarge the Court's jurisdiction.

Option b is incorrect. Enlarging the Court's jurisdiction **does not require a constitutional amendment. Article 138** already provides Parliament the power to do so via ordinary legislation.

Option d is incorrect. The central government is part of the executive. It cannot alter the powers or jurisdiction of the judiciary through notifications or orders. Doing so would violate the principle of **Separation of Powers.**

20. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: The Doctrine of Ancillary Powers implies that the power to legislate on a topic of legislation carries with it the **power to legislate on an ancillary matter** which can be said to be reasonably included in the power given. (State of Rajasthan vs. G. Chawla). In other words, it **deals with the power to legislate on the supplemental or incidental matters.**

Option b is incorrect: The **Doctrine of Severability** aims to protect fundamental rights of the citizens. It states that the whole law or act would not be held invalid, but **only those provisions will be held invalid which are inconsistent with the fundamental rights.** In other words, it aims to separate valid and invalid parts of a law.

Option c is incorrect: This **Doctrine of Eclipse** is applied when any Act/ law violates the fundamental rights. Using this doctrine, the court **makes the entire law unenforceable.** The law is held as **void ab initio,** that is, no legal effect from the inception. Since, the **Fundamental Rights overshadows the law,** it is called as the doctrine of eclipse.

Option d is correct: The Doctrine of Colorable Legislation is used **when the legislature does not possess powers to make law on a particular subject but indirectly makes one.** It is also called as **'Fraud on the Constitution'.** The doctrine traces its origin to the Latin maxim that, **"whatever legislature cannot do directly, it cannot do indirectly".** The doctrine was used by the Supreme Court of India in the case of **Gajapati Narayan Deo v. The State of Orissa** to decide legality of the statute enacted.

21. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Doctrine of Merger in Indian law states that when a **lower court's decision is challenged and upheld by a higher court,** the lower court's judgment **merges into the higher court's ruling.** Consequently, only the **higher court's decision holds legal validity,** and the **lower court's verdict ceases to have an independent existence.**

Judicial doctrine	Meaning
Doctrine of Territorial Nexus	Allows a state legislature to make laws that have an impact outside its territory if there is a sufficient nexus between the subject matter and the state.
Doctrine of Colourable Legislation	Prevents the legislature from passing laws indirectly that it cannot enact directly due to lack of jurisdiction
Doctrine of Merger	Implies that when a lower court's decision is appealed and upheld or modified by a higher court, the lower court's judgment merges with the higher court's ruling.
Doctrine of Eclipse	States that a law inconsistent with the Fundamental Rights becomes invalid but not void.

22. Solution: (c)

Exp) option c is the correct answer.

The jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India is classified into several types such as original, appellate, advisory, and revisory. Within these types, certain matters fall under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. This means that only the Supreme Court has the authority to adjudicate those matters, and no other court, including High Courts, can intervene. This exclusive jurisdiction is conferred by the Constitution either directly through specific articles or indirectly through statutory provisions.

Statement 1 is correct. Election disputes relating to the President of India falls under the purview of Article 71(1) of the Constitution. According to this provision, all doubts and disputes relating to the election of the President or Vice-President are to be decided exclusively by the Supreme Court. The Constitution clearly states that the decision of the Supreme Court in such matters shall

be final. Therefore, the Supreme Court exercises **exclusive jurisdiction** over Presidential and Vice-Presidential election disputes. No other court or tribunal is empowered to adjudicate these cases.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Disputes concerning the election of members to the Lok Sabha are governed by the Representation of the People Act, 1951. As per this Act, such election petitions are filed before the High Courts, which act as courts of first instance. Although appeals from High Court decisions can be made to the Supreme Court, this appellate power does not qualify as exclusive jurisdiction. Since the original jurisdiction in these matters lies with the High Courts and not the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court does not have exclusive jurisdiction here.

Statement 3 is correct. The Supreme Court has exclusive original jurisdiction (Article 131) to decide disputes between the Government of India and one or more States, or between two or more States. These disputes must involve a legal right and not merely a political disagreement.

23. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The principles of natural justice are unwritten but universally accepted legal rules that ensure **fairness**, **reasonableness**, and **transparency** in judicial and administrative decisions. They are meant to protect individuals from arbitrary use of power and guarantee a fair decision-making process. There are primarily two well-recognised principles:

1. **Nemo judex in causa sua – No one shall be a judge in his own case**. This ensures **absence of bias**.
2. **Audi alteram partem** – Hear the other side. This ensures that **no one is condemned unheard**.

These principles are so fundamental that they are followed even in the absence of explicit statutory backing, and apply to courts, tribunals, and administrative authorities alike.

The third principle of Natural Justice which has developed in course of time is that the order which is passed affecting the rights of an individual must be a speaking order. This is necessary with a view to exclude the possibility of arbitrariness in the action. (reasoned decision)

Situation 1 is correct. When a **person is made the judge in his/her own case** It violates the first principle of nemo judex in causa sua. If someone is allowed to judge a matter in which they have a personal interest, it creates a situation of **actual or perceived bias**. This compromises impartiality, which is the cornerstone of justice. Such a setup not only makes the process unfair but also affects public confidence in the fairness of the system.

Situation 2 is correct. When a **person is punished without being given an opportunity to present his/her side.** This directly violates the principle of audi alteram partem. The right to be heard is a **fundamental procedural right**. Before any adverse action is taken against an individual, they must be given a chance to respond to the allegations. Without such opportunity, any decision becomes **arbitrary and unjust**.

Situation 3 is correct. When a **person is not informed of the charges before being penalised**is violation of the principle of audi alteram partem. An individual must be told what charges or allegations they are facing before any disciplinary or penal action is taken. Only then can they prepare a defence or give an explanation. Denying this right means **condemning a person without informing them**, which is completely against natural justice.

Situation 4 is correct. In proceedings such as criminal trials, the right to legal representation is **part of the right to a fair hearing**. If someone is denied legal aid, especially when they are unable to defend themselves due to lack of legal knowledge, it makes the process inherently unfair. Courts have held that in complex or serious matters, denying legal representation can amount to **denial of natural justice**.

24. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The term **"Collegium" has not been mentioned in the Constitution of India.** The collegium system has been devised as a mechanism by the judiciary, through Judges cases, for the appointment and transfer of judges.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The collegium system, which governs judicial appointments and transfers in India did not arise from the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968. The system was established through the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association v. Union of India (1993) **(Second Judges Case)**. It was further clarified in In Re: Presidential Reference **(Third Judges Case, 1998).**

Statement 2 is correct. The collegium system makes recommendations regarding the appointment and the transfer of judges in the judiciary. The government can raise objections and seek clarifications regarding the collegium's choices, but if the collegium reiterates the same names, the government is bound to appoint them to the post.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The Supreme Court has ruled that Collegium deliberations are not subject to the Right to Information (RTI) Act, and only the signed final resolution of the Collegium is put in the public domain.

25. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Independence of the judiciary is crucial for a functioning democracy and upholding the rule of law, ensuring impartial justice delivery. This has been ensured through various mechanisms.

Option 1 is incorrect. There is no such provision that a person who has been a Judge of the Supreme Court shall not be eligible for further office under the Government of India once they complete their tenure. There has been a number of instances where the former judge of the Supreme Court have held office under the Government of India.

Option 2 is incorrect. Article 125 of the Indian constitution leaves it to the Indian Parliament to determine the salary, other allowances, leave of absence, pension, etc. of the Supreme Court judges.

Option 3 is correct. Salaries, gratuity, pension, allowances etc. in respect of Judges of the Supreme Court are governed by the **Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958.** The Salaries, Pension and Allowances of the Supreme Court Judges are **charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India.**

Option 4 is correct. Article 121 of the Constitution of India prohibits discussions in Parliament regarding the conduct of judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts, except when a motion of removal is under consideration.

26. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Supreme Court is authorized to grant in its discretion special leave to appeal against any judgement in any matter passed by any court or tribunal in the country (except military tribunal and court martial).

Statements 1 and 2 are correct: Article 136 in the Constitution of India provides for Special leave to appeal by the Supreme Court. Thus, it can be filed in SC only.

Statement 3 is correct: This SLP provision contains the following four aspects under which it can be filed:

- It is a discretionary power and hence, cannot be claimed as a matter of right.
- It can be granted in any judgement whether final or interlocutory.
- It may be related to any matter–constitutional, civil, criminal, income-tax, labour, revenue, advocates, etc.
- It can be granted against any court or tribunal and not necessarily against a high court (of course, except a military court).

Important Tips

Review petition: -

- Any mandate by the Supreme Court of India is final and binding. However, Under Article 137 provided the Supreme Court with the power to review its judgments. This provision forms the legal basis for a "review petition".
- It is not necessary that only parties related to a case can seek a review of the judgment. Any person aggrieved by a ruling can seek a review.
- A review petition must be filed within 30 days of the court verdict.

27. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **Doctrine of Severability** means that when some particular provision of a statute offends or is against a constitutional limitation, only that offending provision will be declared void by the Court and not the entire statute. Article 13 of the Constitution of India provides for Doctrine of severability which states that all laws in force in India before the commencement of Constitution shall be void in so far, they are inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution.

28. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 143 of the Indian Constitution authorises the President to seek the opinion of the Supreme Court.

The President can seek the opinion of the Supreme Court in the two categories of matters:

- **On any question of law or fact of public importance which has arisen, or which is likely to arise.**
- **On any dispute arising out of any pre-constitution treaty, agreement, covenant, engagement, Sanad or other similar instruments.**

Some of these cases where President had sought the opinion of the Supreme Court:

- Delhi Laws Act in 1951
- **Berubari Union in 1960**
- Keshav Singh's case relating to the privileges of the Legislature in 1964
- Presidential Election in 1974
- Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal in 1992
- Rama Janma Bhumi case in 1993
- **Consultation process to be adopted by the Chief Justice of India in 1998**
- Constitutional validity of the Election Commission's decision on deferring the Gujarat Assembly Elections in 2002
- **Punjab Termination of Agreements Act in 2004**
- **2G spectrum case verdict and the mandatory auctioning of natural resources across all sectors in 2012**

There was no reference made by the President to Supreme Court seeking the validity of Speaker's decision with regards to disqualification under the Tenth Schedule.

29. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. The original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court refers to cases where it acts as the **court of the first instance, i.e., the case begins directly in the Supreme Court,** not necessarily by way of appeal.

Original jurisdiction can be exclusive in some cases like dispute between the Centre and one or more states and **can be non-exclusive** like writ petitions for the enforcement of the Fundamental Rights where High Court can also issue writs.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Disputes related to **elections to Parliament or State Legislatures** are governed by Article 329(b) of the Constitution and are handled by **election petitions,** which must be filed in the **High Court (not the Supreme Court)** as per RPA 1951. Therefore, such disputes do not fall within the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

30. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The removal of a Supreme Court judge in India is a complex and stringent process outlined in the Indian Constitution to safeguard the independence and integrity of the judiciary.

Option a is correct. The removal of Supreme Court and High Court judges from their office is extremely difficult. Only on the grounds of **proven misbehavior or incapacity** may a judge of the Supreme Court or High Court be removed from his/her office. According to Article 124(4) of Constitution of India, a motion containing the charges against the judge must be approved by a **special majority** (majority of total membership of House and majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting) in both Houses of Parliament.

Option b is incorrect. In India, the **President can be removed from office on the grounds of "violating the Constitution of India."** The grounds and the procedure for the removal of the President are specified in Article 61 of the Indian Constitution.

Options c and d incorrect. Members of Parliament (MPs) in India can be disqualified or removed from their offices under certain circumstances as specified in the Constitution and other relevant acts. There have been four principles outlined for determining whether an office attracts constitutional disqualification for an MP.

1. If the person is of **unsound mind.**
2. If the person is charged with insolvency,
3. If he is not a citizen of India
4. If he is disqualified by or under any law made by Parliament.

31. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Judicial review is the power of the judiciary to review laws passed by legislature and actions taken by the executive to determine if they are consistent with the Constitution of India.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Judicial review is to validate the law whether it is incongruent with the Constitution or not, it's **not about checking the wisdom of the legislation enacted. That is the judiciary cannot check into necessity or effectiveness of the law.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: High courts in India have judicial review over central laws also. This means that High courts can strike down central laws that they find to be unconstitutional. Article 226 of the Constitution of India gives High courts the power to issue writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, certiorari, and prohibition to protect the fundamental rights of citizens. These writs can be used to challenge the validity of central laws also. In addition, Article 228 of the Constitution gives High courts the power to determine the constitutional validity of any law or order made by the central government.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Supreme Court of India has judicial review over constitutional amendment acts. The Supreme Court's power of judicial review over constitutional amendment acts was established in the landmark case of Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala in 1973. In that case, the Supreme Court held that the Constitution of India has a "basic structure" that cannot be amended, even by Parliament. The basic structure of the Constitution includes the fundamental rights of citizens, the separation of powers between the different branches of government, and the federal structure of the country.

32. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Supreme Court of India has laid down precise rules and processes for police and other authorities to follow while arresting, detaining, and interrogating an individual. These are referred to as the D.K. Basu Guidelines.

Option a is correct. The D.K. Basu guidelines, based on the D.K. Basu v. State of West Bengal case (1997), are primarily focused on safeguarding the rights of accused individuals during their arrest and detention to prevent abuse of power and protect their fundamental rights.

Option b is incorrect. Vishakha Guidelines pertain to preventing and addressing sexual harassment at the workplace. They are especially relevant for ensuring the safety and dignity of women in the workplace.

Option c is incorrect. Lalita Kumari Guidelines pertain to the registration of First Information Reports (FIRs) in cases of cognizable offenses, ensuring prompt and effective action by law enforcement agencies.

Option d is incorrect. Prakash Singh Case Guidelines also known as the "Prakash Singh v. Union of India" guidelines; they provide directions for police reforms in India. These guidelines aim to enhance the efficiency and accountability of the police force.

Important Tips

Some of the D.K. Basu guidelines, as laid down by the Supreme Court:

1. The police officials who carry out the arrest or interrogation should wear clear, accurate and visible identification and name tags with their designations;
2. A memo of arrest should be prepared at the time of arrest and should include the time and date of arrest. It should also be attested by at least one witness who could include a family member of the person arrested. The arrest memo should be countersigned by the person arrested.
3. The person arrested, detained or being interrogated has a right to inform a relative, friend or well-wisher.
4. When a friend or relative lives outside the district, the time, place of arrest and venue of custody must be notified by police within 8 to 12 hours after arrest.

33. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

As per Article 130 of the Indian Constitution, the usual place of the Supreme Court's meetings is in New Delhi. However,

the Supreme Court has the flexibility to hold its sessions or sittings at any other place outside New Delhi if the President of India approves it. This provision allows the court to conduct its proceedings in other locations when deemed necessary or in special circumstances with the President's permission.

34. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The term 'Contempt of Court' has not been defined by the Constitution. However, it has been defined by the Contempt of Court Act of 1971. Both the Supreme Court and the High Courts have the power to punish for contempt of court.

- Civil Contempt is the willful disobedience of any judgement, order, writ or other process of a court or willful breach of an undertaking given to a court.
- Criminal Contempt is the publication of any matter or doing an act which:

1. Scandalises or lowers the authority of a court or prejudices or interferes with the due course of a judicial proceeding; or (Hence, Option b is correct)
2. Interferes or obstructs the administration of justice in any other manner.

35. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Independence of judiciary means that the other organs of the government like the executive and legislature must not restrain the functioning of the judiciary in such a way that it is unable to do justice. It is done so that judges must be able to perform their functions without fear or favor. The Indian Constitution has ensured the independence of the judiciary through a number of measures.

Statement 1 is incorrect. There is **no prohibition on post-retirement appointments of judges to any public offices.** Judicial independence suffers if governments can – directly or indirectly, publicly or privately – coerce, incentivize, or undermine judges and their decisions. The post-retirement appointments of judges may become a hurdle in achieving Judicial Independence.

Statement 2 is correct. The **judiciary is not financially dependent on either the executive or legislature.** The Constitution provides that the salaries and allowances of the judges are **not subjected to the approval of the legislature.**

Statement 3 is correct. Parliament cannot discuss the conduct of the judges except when the proceeding to remove a judge is being carried out. This gives the judiciary independence to adjudicate without fear of being criticized.

Important Tips

Retired judges are generally prohibited from practicing law in any court, including the Supreme Court and High Courts, as it could compromise their former positions, except when in case of shortage of staff, called by the CJI to work as retired judges.

36. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. The Supreme Court, High Court, Subordinate courts and tribunals are authorized to resolve the disputes between two citizens.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The disputes between India and its neighboring countries are resolved by diplomatic methods, (not by Indian courts). Negotiations between nations in conflict can be either bilateral or multilateral and are conducted directly between Heads of State or Ambassadors or special representatives of the countries involved. The dispute between the rulings of courts of two different countries is dealt with by the International Court of Justice.

Statement 3 is correct. Under the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, International Commercial Arbitration can also be initiated in the Supreme Court.

Statement 4 is correct. The Supreme Court of India under its Original Jurisdiction is empowered to resolve the disputes between the Centre and one or more states; or between the Centre and any state or states on one side and one or more other states on the other side.

37. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Public Prosecutor has no active role in the investigation stage. Public Prosecutors remain **independent of the investigation process** to maintain impartiality. The role of the Public Prosecutor begins **after the investigation** is complete, during the **prosecution stage** of the case. In R. Sarala vs T.S Velu 2000 Supreme Court ruled that the public prosecutor should not be involved in the investigation process.

As per Section 18 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, the primary responsibility of the Public Prosecutor is to represent the state in court during criminal proceedings, ensuring a fair trial and justice.

Statement 2 is incorrect. A Public Prosecutor is **appointed by the state government or central government,** depending on the case, to represent the prosecution (the state) in criminal cases. They are **not appointed on the request of the accused.** The accused has the right to hire a private defense lawyer. The Public Prosecutor's role is to act on behalf of society and ensure that the impartiality and fairness of the justice system is safeguarded.

38. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The **Doctrine of Severability** aims to protect fundamental rights of the citizens. It states that the whole law or act would not be held invalid, but **only those provisions will be held invalid which are inconsistent with the fundamental rights.** In other words, it aims to separate valid and invalid parts of a law.

Statement 2 is correct: The Doctrine of Colorable Legislation is used **when the legislature does not possess powers to make law on a particular subject but indirectly**

makes one. It is also called **'Fraud on the Constitution'**. The doctrine traces its origin to the Latin maxim that, **"whatever legislature cannot do directly, it cannot do indirectly"**. The doctrine was used by the Supreme Court of India in the case of **Gajapati Narayan Deo v. The State of Orissa**. The Court stated:

"The idea conveyed by the expression is that although apparently, a legislature in passing a statute purported to act within the limits of its powers, but in substance and in reality, it transgressed these powers, the transgression being veiled by what appears, on proper examination, to be mere pretence or disguise."

39. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In legal contexts, the term **locus standi** refers to the **legal standing or the right to bring a particular lawsuit or legal action.**

- The rule of 'locus standi' refers to the principle that **only a person whose rights have been directly infringed upon can approach the court for remedies**.
- This ensures that the **party filing the lawsuit has a sufficient personal interest in the case.** The concept is fundamental to ensuring that courts only deal with actual disputes where the party has a legitimate and concrete interest in the outcome.
- However, in some jurisdictions like India, the **rule of locus standi has been relaxed**, particularly in **Public Interest Litigation (PIL) cases**, where even individuals not directly affected by the issue may be allowed to seek judicial intervention on behalf of those who cannot access the court.
- This broader interpretation ensures that public interests, such as environmental protection or the rights of marginalized communities, can be addressed through the legal system.

40. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The legal system deals with two types of laws i.e. Criminal law and Civil law.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Criminal law deals with conduct or acts that the law defines as offences. For example, theft, harassing a woman to bring more dowry, murder.

Civil law deals with any harm or injury to the rights of individuals. This branch of law deals with rights, duties and obligations of individual members of the society among themselves.

For example, disputes relating to sale of land, purchase of goods, rent, divorce matters etc.

Statement 2 is correct. In criminal cases, an accused, if found guilty, can be **sent to jail or can be fined.**

In civil cases, the court gives the specific relief asked for. For instance, in a case between a landlord and a tenant, the court can order the flat to be vacated and pending rent to be paid.

The objective of Civil Law is to rectify the wrongs, or to settle the disputes in an amicable manner.

Statement 3 is incorrect. In civil cases, a petition has to be filed before the relevant court by the affected party only. For example: in a rent matter, either the landlord or tenant can file a case.

A criminal prosecution begins with filing a First Information Report. **Anyone who knows about the commission of a cognizable offence can file an FIR and petition before court.** It is not necessary that only the victim of the crime should file an FIR or petition before court.

41. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Supreme Court of India serves as the **protector and guarantor of Fundamental Rights** outlined in Part III of the Constitution. Article 32 grants individuals the right to approach the Supreme Court directly for enforcing these rights. This ensures that citizens' Fundamental Rights are safeguarded against violations by the state or other entities.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar referred to Article 32 as the "heart and soul" of the Constitution, as it empowers individuals to directly approach the Supreme Court to seek remedies for the violation of their Fundamental Rights. The Court is vested with the authority to issue writs such as habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, certiorari, and quo warranto to enforce these rights.

Additionally, the Supreme Court exercises the power of judicial review, enabling it to examine and invalidate laws, executive orders, or government policies that goes against the Fundamental Rights.

42. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The independence of the judiciary means that the other organs of the government like the executive and legislature must not restrain the functioning of the judiciary. It is necessary so that the judges are able to perform their functions without fear or favour. Constitutionally guaranteed independence of judiciary is crucial as it helps in upholding constitutional supremacy, federalism and fundamental rights of individuals.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Parliament cannot discuss the conduct of the judges **except when the proceeding to remove a judge is being carried out under Article 124 (4).** Thus, Parliament can discuss the conduct of a judge on his removal motion in house.

Statement 2 is correct. The **judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts have a fixed tenure**. They hold office till reaching the age of retirement. (Supreme Court judges retire at the age of 65 years, and the high court judges at 62 years). Only in exceptional cases, judges may be removed. But otherwise, **they have security of tenure.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. Though the judges are appointed through Collegium System, **it is not given in constitution of India neither in any parliamentary statute. It evolved**

through judicial pronouncement. Second Judges Case 1993 introduced the collegium system in India for recommending appointment and transfer of Judges of higher courts. A collegium headed by the CJI (Chief Justice of India) and comprising of four other senior most judges of the supreme court recommends judges to be appointed. Collegium sends recommendation to law minister, who forwards it to Prime Minister to advice the President. Hence, legislature plays no role in appointment of judges.

Statement 4 is correct. The judiciary is not financially dependent on either the executive or legislature. The **Constitution under Article 112 (3) (d) provides that the salaries and allowances of the supreme court judges are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.**

Important Tips

The actions and decisions of the judges are immune from personal criticisms. The judiciary has the power to penalise those who are found guilty of contempt of court. This authority of the court is seen as an effective protection to the judges from unfair criticism.

43. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

A writ is a judicial order issued by the Supreme Court or High Court to safeguard the Fundamental Rights and other legal rights of individuals in India. These writs include habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, quo warranto, and certiorari.

Option 1 is correct: As per Article 32 of Indian constitution, the **Supreme Court** has the power to issue writs for the enforcement of **Fundamental Rights**.

Option 2 is correct: According to **Article 226** of Indian Constitution, **the High Courts** have the power to issue writs for the enforcement of **Fundamental Rights** and for any other purpose.

Option 3 is incorrect: Subordinate courts in India refer to lower-level courts that are placed under the higher courts. **As per the constitution, subordinate courts do not have the authority to issue writs.**

Option 4 is incorrect: Tribunals are judicial or quasi-judicial bodies established by law. **They do not have the authority to exercise writ jurisdiction in India.** However, the decisions awarded in tribunal can be reviewed through writ petitions filed in High Courts or the Supreme Court.

44. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Amicus curiae is a Latin phrase that translates to "**friend of the court**". It refers to a **person or group who is not a party to a legal case but has a strong interest in the matter**.

Option a is incorrect: An **Ombudsman** is an **official appointed to investigate complaints from the public about government actions or decisions.** They may advocate for systemic changes to improve public welfare.

Option b is incorrect: Arbitrators act as **neutral third parties** in **arbitration agreements** where they **decide** the **outcome of disputes outside** the conventional court system.

Option c is incorrect: Mediators help **parties find a mutual agreement by facilitating discussions**; they do not offer opinions or information to influence a judge's decision.

Option d is correct: Amicus Curiae assists the court by providing detailed insights, legal expertise, or **technical information that could influence the judicial decision** but is not directly involved in the litigation.

Important Tips

1. Amicus Curiae plays a crucial role in judicial proceedings by bringing attention to legal interpretations, data, or implications that might not otherwise be considered by the court.
2. Their contributions can be essential in complex cases such as those involving human rights, environmental issues, or significant commercial impacts.
3. The concept of Amicus Curiae is grounded in common law, and its use has been expanded in modern legal systems to include any case where a third party might provide valuable insight to the court.

45. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

In order to be appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India, a person must be a citizen of India and must have been, for at least five years, a Judge of a High Court or of two or more such Courts in succession, or an Advocate of a High Court or of two or more such Courts in succession for at least 10 years or he must be, in the opinion of the President, a distinguished jurist.

Statement I is incorrect: Under the memorandum of procedure (MoP) that guides the judicial appointments, the President can return the name but only once if it does not agree with the collegium's recommendations but is bound by the decision after the names are reiterated.

Statement II is correct: In the Second Judges Case (1993), the Supreme Court overruled its earlier decisions and held that "consultation" really meant "concurrence". It added that it was not just the CJI's individual opinion, but an institutional opinion formed in consultation with the two senior-most judges in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court in this case emphasized that the CJI's opinion enjoys supremacy and is binding on the executive.

1. In the Second Judges Case (1993), the Supreme Court ruled that "consultation" with the CJI in matters of appointments and transfers of judges to the Supreme Court implies "concurrence".
2. This means that the President is bound by the advice of the CJI, as the term "consultation" was interpreted to mean "concurrence". **Therefore, Statement 2 explains why the President is bound by the advice of the CJI.**

46. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Judicial activism is a concept that originated in the US in 1947. The concept of Judicial Activism in India was laid down by Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer, Justice P. N. Bhagwati, Justice O. Chinnappa Reddy, and Justice D.A. Desai. **Judicial activism is also known as "judicial dynamism".**

There are two major aspects of judicial activism followed by the Indian Judiciary

1. The first comes in the form of various directions issued by the courts to the government authorities for protecting the rights of citizens and fulfilment of a course of public interest.
2. The second major aspect of judicial activism in India is the field of interpretation of fundamental rights.

Option d is correct: Judicial activism or Judicial Dynamism signifies the proactive role of the Judiciary in protecting the rights of citizens and in the promotion of justice in society. In other words, it implies the assertive role played by the judiciary to force the other two organs of the government (legislature and executive) to discharge their constitutional duties.

47. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Supreme Court of India was inaugurated on January 28, 1950. It succeeded the Federal Court of India, established under the ·Government of India Act of 1935. Articles 124 to 147 in Part V of the Constitution deal with the organization, independence, Jurisdiction, powers, procedures and so on of the Supreme Court. The Parliament is also authorized to regulate them.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The original Constitution of 1950 envisaged a Supreme Court with a Chief Justice and 7 puisne Judges, leaving it to Parliament to increase this number. In the early years, all the Judges of the Supreme Court sat together to hear the cases presented before them. With the increase in Judicial workload, Parliament increased the number of Judges from 8 in 1950 to 34 in 2019 (current strength). With the expansion of the bench, Judges convene in smaller Benches of two or three, reserving larger benches for resolving the major disputes.

Statement 2 is correct: The salaries, allowances, privileges, leave and pension of the judges of the Supreme Court are determined from time to time by Parliament. They cannot be varied to their disadvantage after their appointment except during a financial emergency.

Statement 3 is incorrect: All appointments of officers and staffs of the Supreme Court of India are **made by the Chief Justice of India**. To maintain the independence of the judiciary the Chief Justice of India has been given powers to appoint officers and servants of the Supreme Court without any interference from the executive. S/he can also prescribe their conditions of service.

48. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Judicial review empowers the judiciary to assess the constitutionality of laws and executive actions by both Central and State governments. If deemed unconstitutional (ultra vires), the judiciary can nullify them, declaring them illegal and invalid.

Statement I is correct: In India, the Constitution implicitly grants the judiciary, including both the Supreme Court and High Courts, the authority of judicial review. Additionally, the Supreme Court has affirmed judicial review as an inherent aspect of the Constitution's basic structure, immune to limitation or elimination via constitutional amendments.

Statement II is correct: Article 142 of the Indian constitution is a provision that empowers the Supreme Court to pass any decree or order necessary for doing complete justice in any case or matter pending before it. It also makes such decree or order enforceable throughout the territory of India. Some examples of the Supreme Court's use of Article 142 are,

1. In Mohini Jain v. State of Karnataka" (1992), case, directing the government to provide free and compulsory education to children between 6 and 14 years of age.
2. In Ministry of Defence v. Babita Puniya & Ors" (2020) case, Granting permanent commission to women officers in the India Army.

Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I: The purpose of the judicial review is not related to Article 142, rather the objective of the judicial review is to uphold the principle of the supremacy of the Constitution, to maintain federal equilibrium (balance between the Centre and the states), to protect the Fundamental Rights of the citizens.

Hence option b is correct: Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I.

49. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

Statement 1 is incorrect: Corporate Lawyers, as well as patent attorneys, are recognized as advocates and there's no prohibition on their recognition as advocates.

Statement 2 is correct: The Bar Council of India visits and inspects Universities/Law colleges in the country **as part of its statutory function of promoting legal education and laying down standards** in consultation with the Universities in India and the State Bar Councils. The Bar Council of India is a **statutory body established** under **section 4 of the Advocates Act 1961** that regulates the legal practice and legal education in India.

50. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Supreme Court of India is the country's highest judicial institution. It serves as the country's final court of appeal. The Supreme Court of India holds the power of judicial review, ensuring the Constitution's supremacy. It interprets laws, resolves disputes between states and the Centre, safeguards

fundamental rights, and monitors government actions. It has appellate jurisdiction over lower courts and exclusive authority in matters of public interest and constitutional interpretation.

Statement 1 is correct. Election Petitions under Part III of the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952 are filed directly in the Supreme Court.

Statement 2 is correct. According to Article 317 of the Constitution, the Chairman or any member of a Union Public Service Commission can only be removed from office by the President on grounds of misconduct. This can happen after the Supreme Court, following a reference made by the President, conducts an inquiry. If the Supreme Court finds, based on the inquiry, that the Chairman or member should be removed due to such misconduct, then the President issue an order for their removal.

Statement 3 is correct. The Supreme Court has the authority to review its own judgments. This power is vested in the Supreme Court under Article 137 of the Constitution of India, which allows it to review any judgment pronounced or order made by it.

As per the Supreme Court Rules, 2013 a review application can be filed with the Supreme Court within 30 days of the relevant judgment. Furthermore, the application must have the certification of an advocate on file. The Court explained the scope of its power of review in Northern India Caterers (India) v Lt. Governor of Delhi (1979).

For example, a 3-Judge Bench of the Supreme Court decided to revisit the **decision in Rajesh Sharma v Union of India** (The Court held that no arrests of the husband or his family members could be made in cases of complaints of dowry harassment under the penal provision without prior verification of the charges against them). On September 14th, 2018, a Bench of Dipak Misra CJI and AM Khanwilkar and DY Chandrachud **modified the earlier guidelines observing that it was not for the Court to fill in legislative gaps to prevent misuse of the law. Such power was to be exercised by the Legislature.**

51. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

According to Article 124(4), a Supreme Court judge can only be removed by a presidential order. The President must receive an address from each House of Parliament that is supported by a majority of its total membership. The address must also be supported by a majority of at least two-thirds of the House's members who are present and voting.

Statement 1 is correct. Article 124 (4) of Indian Constitution specifies **removal on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.**

A Supreme Court judge shall not be removed from office unless by an order of the President issued after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting has been presented to **the President in the same session for such removal on the basis of proved misbehavior or incapacity.**

Statement 2 is correct. If the Lok Sabha dissolves, an impeachment motion against a Supreme Court judge remains valid. The Constitution Bench (during Justice Ramaswami's removal process) ruled by a 4:1 majority that a motion under Section 2 of the Judges Inquiry Act does not lapse when the Lok Sabha dissolves.

Statement 3 is incorrect. An impeachment motion against a Supreme Court judge must be supported by a majority of the total membership of both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, but no less than two-thirds of those present and voting (i.e. Special majority) not simple majority.

52. Solution: (a)

Exp) option a is the correct answer.

According to Article 127, Ad Hoc Judges in Supreme Court are appointed when there is lack of Quorum of the permanent judges to hold or continue any session of the Supreme Court.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The **Chief Justice of India can appoint a judge of a High Court** as an ad hoc judge of the Supreme Court for a temporary period. He/ she can do so **only after consultation with the chief justice of the High Court** concerned and **with the previous consent of the President.**

Statement 2 is correct. The Ad Hoc Judge after being appointed and while attending Supreme court **sessions enjoys all the jurisdiction, powers and privileges (and discharges the duties) of a judge of the Supreme Court.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. According to Article 127 of the Constitution specifies that an ad-hoc judge in the Supreme Court is appointed from a Judge of a High Court. To be appointed as an Ad Hoc Judge in the Supreme Court he/ she should be **qualified for appointment as a judge of the Supreme Court**. However, **The Ad Hoc Judge so to be appointed must already be a Judge of High Court.** The Qualifications for Judge of High court are:

1. He/she has to be a citizen of India.
2. He/she should have held a Judicial Office in territory of India for 10 years.
3. He/she should have been an advocate of High Court(s) for 10 years in succession.

As the Qualification of Distinguished Jurist is not applicable for Judge of High Court therefore, the statement 3 is incorrect.

53. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Advocate-on-Record is an **advocate** who is entitled **under the Order IV of the Supreme Court Rules, 2013**, framed by the Supreme Court of India **under Article 145 of the Constitution**, to **act as well as to plead for a party in the Supreme Court of India**. Advocates-on-Record hold a **unique position** in the Supreme Court as they are the only class of lawyers who are authorized to file pleadings.

Statement 1 is correct: Only Advocates-on-Record are allowed to file writ petitions, suits, appeals, and other proceedings in the Supreme Court. This rule underscores their critical function in the court's procedural framework.

Statement 2 is correct: According to the Supreme Court's rules, a Senior Advocate must be accompanied by an Advocate-on-Record who is responsible for filing all the pleadings in court. This ensures structured representation in front of the bench.

Statement 3 is correct: To qualify for the AoR exam, a lawyer must have practiced for at least four years and completed a year of training under a senior AoR. This ensures AoRs have both the legal background and specialized knowledge in legal practices to represent clients before the Supreme Court of India.

54. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Under **Article 136** of the constitution the Supreme Court is authorized to grant in its discretion **special leave to appeal** against any judgement in any matter passed by any court or tribunal in the country (except military tribunal and court martial).

Statement 1 is incorrect. Appeal by Special leave **is a discretionary power and hence, cannot be claimed as a matter of right by the appellant.**

Statement 2 is incorrect. It may be related to **any matter– constitutional, civil, criminal, income-tax, labour, revenue, advocates, etc.**

Statement 3 is correct. It can be granted in **any judgement whether final or interlocutory.**

55. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. **Article 143** authorises the **President** to seek the **opinion of the Supreme Court** in the two categories of matters:

1. **On any question of law or fact** of public importance which has arisen, or which is **likely to arise.**
2. On any dispute arising out of any **pre-constitution treaty, agreement, covenant, engagement, sanad or other similar instruments.**

Statement 2 is correct. The SC can refuse to tender its advice when the dispute is related to a matter of fact or law of public importance. But on **dispute relating to the pre-constitution treaty, agreement, covenant, engagement, sanad or other similar instruments, SC cannot refuse to give advice.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. The opinion expressed by the Supreme Court is only advisory and **not a judicial pronouncement**. Hence, it is **not binding** on the President; he may follow or may not follow the opinion.

56. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement I is correct. In India, judges have the ethical obligation to **withdraw from a case where they have a direct or indirect involvement.** This ensures impartiality and fairness in the judicial process.

Statement II is incorrect: There are no codified rules governing recusals. If a judge recuses himself, the case is listed before the Chief Justice for allotment to an alternate Bench. India has no codified rules governing recusals, although several Supreme Court judgments have dealt with the issue.

57. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

In India, **judicial review** refers to the authority of the judiciary, particularly the Supreme Court and the High Courts, to examine and invalidate laws, executive orders, and government actions that are inconsistent with the provisions of the **Indian Constitution**. This power enables the judiciary to ensure that governmental actions adhere to constitutional principles and protect the rights of citizens.

Statement 1 is incorrect: In India, the power of judicial review of courts **cannot be curtailed through a constitutional amendment.** This principle is rooted in the **basic structure doctrine** established by the Supreme Court, which safeguards fundamental aspects of the Constitution from being amended in a way that diminishes or restricts them. The Supreme Court affirmed this stance in the **Minerva Mills case (1980),** asserting that judicial review is one of the **basic features of the Constitution** and therefore cannot be curtailed through any amendment to the constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Lower courts in India do not possess the power of judicial review unlike the High Courts and the Supreme Court. They primarily apply and interpret existing laws.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Ninth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, introduced by the First Constitutional Amendment Act, 1951 was a method to bypass the judicial review and judicial scrutiny. Any act which was to be added under the 9th schedule was to get resistant from judicial encroachment even if it infringed the fundamental rights of an individual. But in **Kesavananda Bharati case (1973),** Supreme court held that all **amendments which abrogates or take away the essence or basic structure of constitution which included Fundamental Rights are fit to be struck down by the court.**

Again, **in I R Coelho case 2007,** the Supreme court held that **every law that is placed under 9th Schedule must be tested under Art. 14, 19 and 21 if it came into force after 24th April 1973. Hence it reinforced Judicial review of laws under 9th Schedule if it was placed under the Schedule after 24th April 1973.** Additionally, Supreme court held that if the constitutional validity of any law under the ninth schedule has been upheld before, in future it cannot be challenged again. Thus, **it put a check on the legislature to formulate laws so that they do not take away the rights of the citizen and thus settled all the dilemmas prevailing over the law under the 9th schedule.**

58. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Indian Constitution has established an integrated judicial system with the Supreme Court at the top followed by High courts and District courts. The Independent Supreme Court plays a crucial role in ensuring functioning of Government within the Constitutional framework.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Supreme Court collegium system, chaired by the Chief Justice of India and four senior-most Supreme Court judges, holds significant influence over judicial appointments and transfers, thereby **reducing executive interference.** However, it is important to note that the **executive still plays a role in the appointment process, as judges are ultimately appointed by the President** based on the recommendation of the Council of Ministers. **Hence the** collegium system to a certain extent helps to ensure independence in judicial appointments but it does not completely prohibit executive interference.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The prior written consent of the Chief Justice of India is not mandatory for initiating an impeachment motion against Supreme Court judges. The procedure for their removal is outlined in **Article 124(4) of the Constitution of India and the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968,** which stipulates that a judge can only be removed by the President upon a motion supported by a majority of the total membership of the relevant House and by not less than two-thirds of the total members present and voting.

59. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is correct answer

An **injunction** represents a legal action where an individual is ordered by the court to either perform a specific action (mandatory injunction) or to stop performing a specific action (prohibitory injunction). This remedy comes as a court order directed at a specific person, either to prevent them from continuing a particular act or to compel them to execute a certain act.

Statement 1 is correct : An "**ex-parte injunction**" is a legal term used to describe a court order that is granted on the request of and for the **benefit of one party only, without notice to or challenge by the other side.** Courts often issue such orders when notifying the other side poses a risk of causing irreparable damage or when there's a considerable chance that the other party might undermine the order's intent if forewarned.

Statement 2 is correct: In the cautionary order the Supreme Court of India, also referred to the **three-fold test for granting interim injunctions**, often used by courts to determine whether to issue such an order. The test includes the following criteria:

1. **Prima Facie Case**: There should be a substantial question to be tried, indicating the claim is not frivolous.
2. **Balance of Convenience:** The court assesses which party would suffer more harm from the granting or withholding of the injunction. The balance of convenience must favor the applicant.
3. **Irreparable Harm:** The applicant must show that without the injunction, they would suffer harm that could not be adequately compensated by damages.

Note: The Court also referred to the **Bonnard vs Perryman doctrine**, advocating for restraint in defamation injunctions unless the defamation is clear and undefendable, highlighting defences like truth and public interest.

60. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Promissory estoppel is a legal mechanism that allows an **aggrieved party to seek redress based on a promise.** It necessitates key elements: a promisor, a promisee, and a detriment suffered by the promisee. Moreover, for a valid claim, the promisee must have reasonably depended on the promise, indicating that it was a promise a prudent individual would typically trust.

Promissory estoppel is a legal doctrine that allows a party to enforce a promise made by another party if the first party has reasonably relied on that promise to their detriment, and enforcing the promise is necessary to prevent injustice. This principle doesn't require a specific timeframe for fulfillment, nor does it necessitate explicit contractual terms for nullification; instead, it emphasises the importance of reasonable reliance on promises to uphold fairness and prevent harm or injustice to the party who relied on the promise.

In a 1981 decision in Chhaganlal Keshavalal Mehta v. Patel Narandas Haribhai, the SC lists out a checklist for when the doctrine can be applied. First, there must be a clear and unambiguous promise. Second, the plaintiff (the party moving court in a civil action) must have acted relying reasonably on that promise. Third, the plaintiff has suffered a loss.

61. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Integrated system of Courts means a judicial system where a single system of **courts enforces both Centre as well as state laws.** India has integrated judicial system with Supreme Court at the top and High Courts below it. There is a hierarchy of subordinate courts below the High Court. All these courts are empowered to hear cases pertaining to both Centre as well as the state laws.

Option a is incorrect: Some of the borrowed features from Constitution of Ireland are Directive Principles of State Policy, nomination of members to the Rajya Sabha and method of election of the President and not integrated system of courts.

Option b is incorrect: The judicial system including the single system of courts in India has not been adopted from the French Constitution. There are considerable differences between the judicial setup of India and France. For example, unlike India, in France any court can hear civil and criminal system. Moreover, **France is a unitary state.** So, there is no question of single system of courts enforcing center and the state laws.

Option c is incorrect: The United Kingdom (UK) has **three separate legal systems, one each for England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.** Also, **UK is not a federal country**. So, there is no question of single system of courts in UK.

Option d is correct: The single system of courts in India has been adopted from the Government of India Act, 1935. The Supreme Court of India has succeeded the Federal Court of India, which was established under the Government of India Act, 1935. The Federal Court also has original, advisory and appellate jurisdiction. **It was empowered to hear appeals from the Provincial High Courts.** Also, the **High Courts could decide cases on the matters pertaining to the Government of India Act, 1935.** Hence, there was a single system of courts which was later adopted in the Constitution of India. A significant chunk of administrative provisions was adopted from the Government of India Act, 1935.

62. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Articles 124-147 of the Constitution deals with various provisions regarding the Supreme Court of India, its powers, administration and so on.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution does not prescribe tenure of a Supreme Court Judge. It only specifies that a Judge **holds office until he attains the age of 65 years.** So, there is no fixed tenure of the Judges of the Supreme Court. The Judge retires on attaining the age of 65 years or he/ she can resign or can be removed by the President on the recommendation of the Parliament.

Statement 2 is correct: Article 124(4) provides for the removal of the Supreme Court Judge. The **Article explicitly mentions the grounds for removal of Judge- proven misbehavior or incapacity**. Hence, the given statement is correct.

63. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

Statement a is incorrect: Earlier plea bargaining was not part of Indian legal system. It was added to the Code of Criminal Procedure in 2006 for pre-trial negotiation in criminal cases.

Statement b is correct: Plea bargaining is the system of negotiating an agreement between the prosecution and defense wherein the defendant pleads guilty to a lesser offence and involves pre-trail negotiations with the prosecution. It may involve bargaining on the charge or in the quantum of sentence.

Statement c is incorrect: Plea bargaining is available only in those criminal cases where the punishment is up to seven years. It is not available for all types of crime e.g.; a person cannot claim plea bargaining after committing heinous crimes or for the crimes which are punishable with death or life imprisonment.

Statement d is incorrect: Plea bargaining is not same as **pleading guilty by the defendant to all charges** levied against him by the prosecution. The aim of the plea bargain for the defendant is also not just to avoid the long process of trial. Rather it is a pretrial negotiation between the accused and the prosecution where the accused agrees to **plead guilty in exchange for certain concessions by the prosecution.**

64. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Under Article 143 of the constitution President can seek opinion of judiciary on A) any question of law or fact of public importance which has arisen, or which is likely to arise and on B) any dispute arising out of any pre-constitution treaty, agreement, covenant, engagement, Sanad or other similar instruments.

Statement 2 is correct: As per constitution, Supreme Court can refuse to tender its opinion to President which involves any question of law or fact of public importance.

Statement 3 is incorrect: As per constitution, Supreme Court must provide its opinion on matters involving any dispute arising out of any pre-constitution treaty, agreement or similar instrument.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Under advisory jurisdiction, the opinion expressed by the Supreme Court is only advisory and not a judicial pronouncement. Hence, it is not binding on the president; he may follow or may not follow the opinion.

65. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 126 of the Constitution of India deals with matters related to appointment of acting Chief Justice of India and grounds related to it. The President can appoint a judge of the Supreme Court as an acting Chief Justice of India in certain circumstances.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 126 empowers the President of India to appoint acting Chief Justice of India, if the Chief Justice of India is **unable to perform the duties of his/ her office because of absence or otherwise.** Further the President can appoint acting chief justice if the office of Chief Justice of India is **vacant.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The constitution provides no such provision for appointment of acting Chief Justice of India (CJI) when Parliament passes a resolution demanding removal motion against CJI.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The constitution provides **no such ground** to appoint acting CJI i.e., if the deadlock between Government and Collegium over the appointment of Chief Justice of India persists for more than six months,

66. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The procedure for removal of the Supreme Court judge is guided by **Article 124(4) of the Constitution of India and the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968. Article 218** of the Constitution of India provides for the impeachment of High Court judges.

Statement 1 is correct: The Constitution does not use the word 'impeachment'. The term impeachment is used to refer to the **proceedings under Article 124** (for the removal of a Supreme Court judges) and **Article 218** (for the removal of a High Court judges).

Statement 2 is correct: It is true that **judges of the Supreme court cannot be removed by the President except based on a motion** passed by each house of the parliament with special majority. The Constitution of India **(Article 124(4))** provides that a **judge of the Supreme court shall not be removed** from his/her office except by an order of the President. The same order should be passed after an address by each house of parliament supported by a **majority of total membership of that House and by not less than two-thirds of total members of that House present and voting.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: As per the Judges (Inquiry) Act 1968, **prior written consent of the Chief Justice of India is not mandatory** for the initiation of impeachment motion in the Parliament against judges of High courts.

67. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: Admission of judgements given by the Supreme court as legal precedents by lower judiciaries is related to the concept of **Court of records,** not original jurisdiction.

Option b is incorrect: On 26th November 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Constitution of India, which came into **effect from 26th January 1950. The powers conferred to the Supreme court of India by original constitution does not means original jurisdiction** of Indian Judiciary. The Jurisdictional powers conferred upon the Supreme court on the date of enforcement of Indian Constitution also include its appellate jurisdiction, advisory jurisdiction etc other than the original jurisdiction. **Hence the statement is not correct.**

Option c is incorrect: The States Reorganization Act, 1956 made a major change in the boundaries of India's states and territories by organizing them along linguistic lines. However, the **original jurisdiction is not related to territorial jurisdiction exercised by high courts before implementation of this act.**

Option d is correct: Original jurisdiction of a court is the power to hear a case for the first time, as opposed to appellate jurisdiction. The constitution gives citizens the **right to approach** either the Supreme court (Article 32) or high courts (Article 226) **directly to enforce their fundamental rights** and so this is the original jurisdiction of both the supreme court as well as high courts.

68. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The Indian Constitution has established an **integrated judicial system** with the Supreme Court at the top, Indian judiciary enforces both Union and State laws. In contrast, **the United States of America (USA) has a dual system of courts**–one for the Centre and the other for the states. Thus, state laws and union laws are enforced by separate judiciary in the USA.

Statement 2 is correct: The scope of **judicial review is broader in the USA** as compared to India because India follows **Procedure established by law** whereas the USA follows **due process of law.** While Indian Judiciary sits on the judgement of whether the laws/executive actions followed proper procedures, American Judiciary sits on the judgement of wisdom of law i.e., reasonableness of law which provides better scope for judicial review.

Statement 3 is correct: It is true that the Indian **Judicial System has a provision for Advisory Jurisdiction, but no such provision** is provided in the **American Judicial System. Article 143** of the Indian Constitution authorises the **President to seek the opinion of the Supreme Court.**

69. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Supreme court collegium system is chaired by **the Chief Justice of India** along with four senior-most Supreme Court judges. The High court collegium is chaired by the **Chief Justice** and the two senior-most judges of the concerned high court, and it sends its judicial appointments recommendation only to the Supreme Court Collegium.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **collegium system decides on both the appointment and transfer of judges,** thus plays a major role in reducing the interference of the executive. The collegium system makes recommendations for the candidates to be appointed as Supreme Court and High Court judges to the President.

Statement 2 is correct: It is true that the appointment made by the Collegium system does not recognize any affirmative action or reservation policy. The **lack of representation of disadvantaged groups** such as OBCs/SCs and STs and Women are one of the major criticisms levelled against the Indian Judiciary. For instance, so far, there has been just one **judge from the ST community and no women CJI so far.**

Statement 3 is correct: Collegium system is not part of the original constitution, and this is one of the major criticisms levelled against collegium. The Collegium system is a judicial innovation through a **series of three cases** (happened in 1981,1993 and 1998) popularly known as **three judge cases.**

70. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 131 of the constitution of India deals with the original jurisdiction of the Supreme court. Original jurisdiction of the Supreme court means that the court **hears the case first as opposed to the appellate jurisdiction** and **exclusive jurisdiction means the power of the Supreme court alone** to hear that in the first instance.

Option 1 is incorrect: Exclusive Original jurisdiction (or even Original Jurisdiction) of the Supreme Court does **not extend to a dispute arising out of any pre-Constitution**

treaty, agreement, covenant, engagement or other similar instruments. In fact, disputes arising out of pre-constitution treaties belong to an **advisory jurisdiction (Article 143)** of the Supreme court.

Option 2 is correct: It is true that a **dispute between two or more states is the exclusive original jurisdiction of the Supreme court**, which means that such cases cannot be heard by the High court.

Option 3 is incorrect: Matters related to Inter-state water disputes are neither exclusive original nor the original jurisdiction of the supreme court as the Interstate water disputes act of 1956 has excluded the original jurisdiction of Supreme court in disputes between states with respect to the use, distribution or control of the water of interstate river or river valley.

Option 4 is correct: A dispute between centre and any state on any matter comes under the exclusive original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.

Option 5 is incorrect: Original jurisdiction of the Supreme court **does not extend to cover matters referred to the Finance Commission.** The Finance Commissions are constituted by the President of India under **Article 280** of the Indian Constitution to define the financial relations between the Centre and state governments.

71. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Constitution of India confers the power of judicial review on both the Supreme Court and High Courts in India. Further, the Supreme Court has declared the power of **judicial review as a basic structure of the Constitution**.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Judicial review **ensures Constitutional supremacy, not Judicial supremacy.** Judicial review empowers the Judiciary (both Supreme court and High courts) **to strike down any laws/executive actions, if it violates constitutional provisions** thereby ensuring supremacy of the constitution.

Statement 2 is correct: It is true that Judicial review **ensures the federal character** of the Indian constitution. Judiciary can strike down any central laws if it violates federal nature of the Indian constitution for instance if the **central government enacts law in state list,** except according to the grounds mentioned in the constitution then Judiciary can strike down such laws to ensure Federalism in India.

Statement 3 is correct: The Supreme court (SC) in DC Wadhwa v. State of Bihar case, 1986 held that re-promulgation of ordinances without submitting it to the legislature is a violation of the Constitution. Further in the Krishna Kumar Singh & Anr vs State of Bihar & Ors case, 2017 the SC ruled that power of the President and the Governor to make ordinances **is not exempt from judicial review** under the Constitution.

72. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is correct answer.

The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to monitor and evaluate implementation of legal aid programmes.

Statement 1 is incorrect: NALSA is a realization of a provision given in the Directive Principles of State Policy (not Fundamental Duties). **Article 39A** of the Constitution of India **provides for free legal aid to the poor and weaker sections** of the society and ensures justice for all.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The **Chief Justice of India is the Patron-in-Chief** and the **Senior most Hon'ble Judge, Supreme Court of India is the Executive Chairman** of the NALSA.

73. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 145 deals with the various provisions regarding the rules of functioning of the Supreme Court.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 145(5) expressly provides that No judgment and no such opinion shall be delivered by the Supreme Court save with the concurrence of a majority of the Judges present at the hearing of the case. However, this provision does not prevent a Judge from giving a dissenting judgment or opinion. Hence, the judicial decisions are taken on the basis of majority.

Statement 2 is incorrect: In the matters involving the substantial question of law as to the interpretation of the Constitution, **a minimum 5 number of judges are required to sit for the purpose of deciding the case.** Also, when the President seeks the opinion of the Supreme Court under Article 143, minimum number of judges required for the sitting is 5.

74. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Judicial restraint is a concept that encourages the judiciary to limit the exercise of their judicial powers. Judicial restraint is considered the opposite of judicial activism, in which judges are restricted from interfering with democratic politics.

Statement 1 is correct: Judicial restraint helps in maintaining the separation of powers. It restraints courts from making laws and helps them focus on their duty of interpretation of statutes. Judicial restraint aims to accomplish balance of power in two ways. Firstly, it not only recognizes the equality of the other two branches, but it also fosters that equality by minimizing inter-branch interference.

Statement 2 is correct: Judicial restraint protects the independence of the judiciary. When court encroaches upon the jurisdiction of the other two organs, the voters and the elected officials might conclude that the activities of the judges should be monitored. Judicial restraint helps the courts to not to overstep their mandate and protect their independence.

4.2. High Court

75. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: A High court has the power of superintendence over all courts and tribunals functioning in its territorial jurisdiction **(except military courts or tribunals).** This provision is given in Article 227.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct: Power of superintendence of a high court is very broad because, (i) it extends to all courts and tribunals whether they are subject to the appellate jurisdiction of the high court or not; (ii) **it covers administrative superintendence along with judicial superintendence**; (iii) it is a revisional jurisdiction; and (iv) **it can be Suo-motu (on its own) and not necessarily on the application of a party.**

76. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 229 of the Indian Constitution is associated with Officers and servants and the expenses of High Courts.

Statement 1 is correct. Article 229 (1) is associated with appointments of officers and servants of a High Court. According to it, the appointments of officers and servants of a High Court shall be made by the **Chief Justice of the High Court** or such other **Judge or officer of the Court** as he may direct. But the **Governor** of the State may require that a **person not already attached to the Court** shall not be appointed to any office connected with the Court.

Statement 2 is correct. According to Article 229 (2), the conditions of service of officers and **servants** of a High Court are prescribed by rules made by the **Chief Justice of the High Court.** purpose. But the rules made related to salaries, allowances, leave or pensions, **require** the **approval of the Governor** of the State.

77. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 214 of the Constitution of India provides for a High Court for each State. **The Constitution (Seventh) Amendment Act of 1956 added provisions regarding extension of the jurisdiction of the High Courts to Union Territories (UTs).**

Statement 1 is incorrect: Under Article 241 of the Indian Constitution, **the Parliament** may by law constitute a High Court for a Union territory.

Statement 2 is correct: Delhi is the only UT that has its own separate High Court. The UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh have a common High Court. The other UTs come under the jurisdiction of different State High Courts. Hence, Delhi is the only UT that has its own separate High Court.

Statement 3 is correct: The UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands comes under the **jurisdiction of the Calcutta High Court**. Hence, the given statement is correct.

Important Tips

UTs	Comes under the jurisdiction of the High Court
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.	Bombay High Court
Lakshadweep	Kerala High Court
Chandigarh	Punjab & Haryana High Court
Puducherry	Madras High Court

78. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is correct answer.

Article 226 of the Constitution empowers a high court to issue writs including *habeas corpus, mandamus, certiorari, prohibition and quo warranto.*

Statement 1 is correct: The Constitution empowers a high court to issue writs not only for the enforcement of the fundamental rights of the citizens but also for the **enforcement of an ordinary legal right.** Whereas the Supreme Court issues writs only for the enforcement of the fundamental rights of the citizens under Art. 32. **This is the reason that the writ jurisdiction of the high court is wider than that of the Supreme Court.**

Statement 2 is correct: In the **Chandra Kumar case (1997),** the Supreme Court ruled that the **writ jurisdiction of both the high court and the Supreme Court constitute a part of the basic structure of the Constitution.** It cannot be ousted or excluded even by way of an amendment to the Constitution.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The high court can issue writs to any person, authority and government **not only within its territorial jurisdiction but also outside its territorial jurisdiction if the cause of action arises within its territorial jurisdiction.**

79. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

India follows the model of integrated judiciary arranged in a hierarchical order with the Supreme court as apex organization and high courts which work below the Supreme Court. Currently, India has 25 High Courts established in different states of the country

Statement 1 is incorrect: The power to increase the **number of judges in High courts is vested in the President of India (Article 216)** whereas the power to increase the number of judges in the **Supreme courts is vested in the Parliament (Article 124).**

Statement 2 is correct: It is true that **Pensions** of high court judges are charged on the **Consolidated fund of India.** It is to be noted here that while pensions are charged on the consolidated fund of India, **salaries and other allowance** of high court judges are charged upon the **consolidated fund of respective states.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: The salaries, allowances, privileges, leave and pension of the judges of a high court are determined from time to time by Parliament and it can be **changed during a financial emergency. Thus, salaries and allowance cannot be changed under any circumstances is incorrect.**

80. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is correct answer.

Like the Supreme Court, the High court has been vested with quite extensive and effective powers. It is the Highest court of appeal in the state. It is the protector of the Fundamental Rights of the citizens.

Statement 1 is correct: A high court is vested with the power to interpret the Constitution. **It can interpret provisions not only related to State government but also Union government as well.**

Statement 2 is correct: The Constitution empowers the Parliament and the state legislature to change the jurisdiction and powers of a high court. However, the jurisdiction and powers of a high court as they are specified in the Constitution **cannot be curtailed both by the Parliament and the state legislature.**

81. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is correct answer.

The high courts of India are the highest courts of appellate jurisdiction in each state and union territory of India.

Statement 1 is correct: Unlike in the case of the Supreme Court, the Constitution **makes no provision** for appointment of a distinguished jurist as a judge of a High Court.

Statement 2 is correct and Statement 3 is incorrect: Qualification to become the Judge of the High Court are-

i. **He should be a citizen of India. Therefore, only Indian citizens can be High court judge.**
ii. **(a) He should have held a judicial office in the territory of India for ten years (not five years); or (b) He should have been an advocate of a High court (or High courts in succession) for ten years.**

Statement 4 is correct: The Constitution has not prescribed a minimum age for appointment as a judge of a high court. However, it has prescribed the retirement age (62 years).

82. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is correct answer.

A judge of a high court can be removed from his office by an order of the President. The President can issue the removal order only after an address by the Parliament has been presented to him in the same session for such removal. The address must be supported by a special majority of each House of Parliament.

Statement 1 is correct: No judge of any high court (or Supreme Court) of India has been impeached so far. Impeachment proceedings against SC or HC judges initiated a total of 4 times in Indian history.

Statement 2 is correct: The Speaker/Chairman **may admit the motion of removal of High court or refuse to admit it. They have discretionary power** in admitting the motion of removal.

Statement 3 is correct: A judge of a high court can be removed in the same manner and on the same grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court. The procedure for the impeachment of a judge of a high court is the same as that for a judge of the Supreme Court. The grounds of removal are two– **proved misbehaviour or incapacity.**

83. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Under **Article 215** of the Indian Constitution, "Every High Court shall be a **court of record** and shall have all the powers of such a court including the **power to punish for contempt of itself."**

Statement 1 is correct: Being a Court of Record means that the **judgments, proceedings, and acts of the High Court are recorded for perpetual memory.** These judgments can be cited as legal precedents in future cases, especially in subordinate courts. This is an essential feature of **common law systems** where past judicial decisions help guide future rulings.

Statement 2 is correct: Article 215 explicitly grants **High Courts the power to punish for contempt** of itself. This ensures that the dignity, authority, and orderly functioning of the judiciary are preserved. It includes **both civil and criminal contempt, and this power is inherent.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: High Courts have the power of superintendence over all courts and tribunals within their territorial jurisdiction, but it does not flow from Article 215. **The power of superintendence** over **subordinate courts is conferred by Article 227.**

84. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Constitution of India provides for a high court for each state, but the Seventh Amendment Act of 1956 authorised the Parliament to establish a common high court for two or more states or for two or more states and a union territory. At present there are 25 high courts in the country.

As per **Article 216** of the Indian constitution, the power to increase the **number of judges in High courts is vested in the President of India.** The power to increase the number of judges in the **Supreme courts is vested in the Parliament** (as per Article 124).

The **Constitution does not specify the strength of a high court** and leaves it to the discretion of the President. Accordingly, the President determines the strength of a high court from time to time depending upon its workload.

85. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Writs are nothing but the written orders that are given by either the Supreme Court of India or the High Courts. These

written orders provide constitutional remedies for the Indian citizens against the violation of their legal, constitutional or fundamental rights. According to Article 32 of the Indian Constitution, the Supreme Court of India can issue writs whereas according to Article 226 of the Indian Constitution, High Courts can issue writs.

Statement 1 is incorrect. According to the doctrine of *locus standi*, a person who is stranger to a disputed matter cannot be allowed to interfere in the judicial proceedings. Only a person whose legal right has been violated, that is the aggrieved person against whom a decision has been pronounced, is allowed to bring an action in court.

With reference to the writ jurisdiction of High Courts and the Supreme Court of India, the principle of locus standi is not mandatory in case of some of the writs. For example, in the case of Habeas corpus and Quo Warranto, Locus standi is not necessary. Whereas in the case of Certiorari, Prohibition, Mandamus - Locus Standi is mandatory. For example, a person other than the aggrieved person can approach a High Court or the Supreme Court of India to ask the respective court to issue the writ of Habeas Corpus.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct. According to the Article 32 of Constitution of India, the **Supreme Court can issue writs only for the enforcement of the Fundamental Rights** and not for other purposes. The High Courts, on the other hand, can issue writs not only for the enforcement of the fundamental rights but also for other purposes (Article 226 of Constitution of India). It means that the writ jurisdiction of the high court is wider than that of the Supreme Court. But the Constitution also mentions that the Parliament can confer on the Supreme Court the power to issue writs for other purposes also.

Statement 4 is incorrect. In India, only the Supreme Court and High Courts can issue writs. The Supreme Court issues writs under Article 32 of the Constitution of India, and the High Court issues writs under Article 226. However, clause 3 of article 32 provides that parliament is competent to empower any other court with writ jurisdiction. **But presently, Parliament of India has not made any such law which empowers the lower courts to issue the writs. So, the statement is incorrect.**

86. Solution: (b)

Exp) option b is the correct answer.

Prohibition is a legal term that implies 'to prohibit, restrain, prevent, or forbid.' A higher court issues a writ of prohibition against the lower court to prevent it from exceeding its authority or going beyond its required jurisdiction. **It cannot be enforced against administrative agencies, statutory authorities, or private persons or enterprises. It is exclusively applicable to judicial and quasi-judicial bodies.**

87. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

India's judiciary is established on the principle of **unity and integration**, unlike federal systems such as the United States, where a dual judiciary exists, that is, separate federal and state courts.

Statement I is incorrect. A ruling of a High Court is binding only within its own territorial jurisdiction, that is, on all subordinate courts within the state it serves. It is not binding on High Courts in other states. However, such rulings may carry **persuasive value** in other states, especially in the absence of conflicting judgments. The **Supreme Court**, on the other hand, delivers judgments that are **binding across the entire country** under **Article 141** of the Constitution. So, while all courts are part of an integrated system, each **High Court operates within its jurisdictional limits**, and its rulings do not bind courts outside that jurisdiction.

Statement II is correct. India has adopted a single, integrated judicial system, meaning that there is no separate judiciary for the Union and the states. The **Supreme Court is at the apex** of this structure, and its decisions bind all courts in India. This system promotes **uniformity of law**, ensures **coherent interpretation of constitutional provisions**, and supports a **unitary character** in legal matters, even within a federal political structure. This is a **distinctive feature** of India's judicial framework and is affirmed in both constitutional provisions and judicial interpretation.

88. Solution: (a)

Exp) option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The transfer of High Court Judges is carried out by the President of India after consulting the Chief Justice of India (CJI), as per the provisions laid out in Article 222 of the Constitution. The CJI may recommend the transfer of judges after consulting four senior-most judges of the Supreme Court. In the Third Judges case, the Supreme court opined that the Chief justice of India should consult in addition to the collegium of four senior most judges of the Supreme Court, the chief justice of the two high courts (one from which the judges is being transferred and the other receiving him).

Thus, it is not at the discretion of the President of India.

Statement 2 is correct: A transferred judge is entitled to compensatory allowance for the expenses incurred due to the transfer. Article 222 of the Constitution says, when a Judge is transferred, he shall be entitled to receive in addition to his salary such compensatory allowance as may be determined by Parliament by law and, until so determined, such compensatory allowance as the President may by order fix.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The consent of the judge is not required for the transfer of a High Court judge. The transfer is done by the President of India, based on consultation with the CJI, and the judge does not have to consent to the transfer.

89. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Judicial review is a core feature of the Indian Constitution, empowering courts to scrutinize the constitutionality of

legislative and executive actions. While the **Supreme Court** is the ultimate interpreter of the Constitution, the **High Courts** also enjoy significant powers under **Article 226** to uphold constitutional principles.

Statement I is correct. High Courts are empowered under **Article 226** to issue writs not only for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights but also "for any other purpose." This includes the authority to **strike down central or state laws** that are found to be **ultra vires** (beyond the powers) of the Constitution. This means that even though the central legislature enacts a law, if it infringes upon constitutional provisions, especially **Fundamental Rights under Part III,** the High Court can declare it unconstitutional within its territorial jurisdiction.

Statement II is incorrect. The **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976** curtailed the power of **judicial review of the High Courts by restricting** their authority to examine the constitutional validity of Central laws. However, this limitation was subsequently revoked by the 43rd Amendment Act of 1977, thereby restoring the original position and reaffirming the power of High Courts to review both State and Central legislation for their conformity with the Constitution.

90. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Under **Article 139A(2)** of the Constitution of India, the Supreme Court has the **power to transfer cases or appeals from one High Court to another** if it considers such a transfer necessary for the ends of justice. This power is especially important when cases involve **substantial questions of law or when conflicting judgments from different High Courts** may affect the uniformity of law across the country.

91. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The qualifications for appointment as a judge of a High Court are outlined in Article 217(2) of the Indian Constitution. A person to be appointed as a judge of a high court, should have the following qualifications

1. Article 217(2) of Indian Constitution provides that to be **appointed as a judge of a High Court**, an individual must be the **Citizen of India**.
2. As per Article 217(2)(a) of the Indian Constitution, **an Indian citizen who has held a judicial office in India for at least ten years is eligible for appointment** as a judge of a High Court. In calculating this period, any time spent as an advocate of a High Court, or holding the office of a tribunal member or any post under the Union or a State that requires special legal knowledge, is also included. **(Hence Option 1 is correct)**
3. According to Article 217(2)(b) of the Indian Constitution, **an Indian citizen who has been an advocate of a High Court, or of two or more such courts in succession, for at least ten years is eligible for appointment as a judge of a High Court.** In calculating this period, any time before the commencement of the Constitution during which the person held a judicial office in any area defined under the Government of India Act, 1935 or was an advocate of a High Court in such an area, will also be included. **(Hence Option 2 is correct)**

Option 3 is incorrect: Being **distinguished jurist in** opinion of the President is not a qualification for High Court judges. It applies only to the appointment of judges to the **Supreme Court** under **Article 124(3).**

92. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **transfer of judges, including the Chief Justice, of High Courts** is governed by the provisions of **Article 222** of the Constitution. This article **authorizes the President to transfer a judge** from one High Court to another.

Statement 1 is correct: According to the Article 222, Constitution of India 1950- The President may, after consultation with the Chief Justice of India, transfer a Judge from one High Court to any other High Court within the territory of India.

Statement 2 is incorrect: In 1977, the Supreme Court ruled that the transfer of high court judges could be resorted to only as an exceptional measure **and only in public interest and not by way of punishment. Again in 1994, the Supreme Court held that judicial review is necessary to check arbitrariness in transfer of judges.** But only the judge who is transferred can challenge it.

93. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Constitution of India, under Article 214, mandates the establishment of a High Court for each state. According to Article 225, the Constitution does not confer any general jurisdiction to the High Courts but states that their jurisdiction will remain as it existed before the Constitution came into effect.

Statement 1 is correct: As an appellate court, the **High Court hears appeals against the judgments of subordinate courts within its territorial jurisdiction**, covering both civil and criminal matters. This authority enables High Courts to **review, modify, or overturn decisions made by subordinate courts.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Some High Courts have a provision for intra-court appeals. Under this provision, **if a single judge of the High Court has made a decision**, an **appeal** from that decision can be made to a **division bench of the same High Court (not in the other High courts).**

94. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **composition of High Courts** in India is governed by **Part VI, Chapter V of the Constitution**, specifically under **Articles 216, 224, and 224A**. These provisions ensure the efficient functioning of High Courts by determining the strength of judges, appointing acting judges, and utilizing the services of retired judges when necessary.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution does not prescribe a fixed number of judges for a High Court. According to **Article 216** of the Indian Constitution, the **authority to determine the strength of a High Court, in terms of the number of judges, rests with the President**, who decides it based on the workload and requirements of the court. The **Parliament does not play a role in this determination.**

Statement 2 is correct: As per **Article 224A** of the India Constitution, the **Chief Justice of a High Court** can **request a retired judge, either from the same High Court or other, to temporarily serve as a judge of that High Court**. This can only be done with the prior consent of the President and the person being appointed. The temporary judge enjoys all the jurisdiction, powers and privileges of a regular judge, but is not considered a permanent judge of the High Court.

Statement 3 is correct: According to **Article 224** of the Indian Constitution, the **President can appoint a qualified person as an acting judge of a High Court.** This can be done **when a regular judge** (other than the Chief Justice) **of that High Court is unable to perform duties** due to absence or other reasons or is temporarily appointed as Chief Justice of that High Court. The acting judge serves until the permanent judge resumes office but cannot hold office after attaining the age of 62 years.

95. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect- The **Parliament of India (not the President)** can extend the jurisdiction of a High Court to any Union Territory or exclude the jurisdiction of a High Court from any Union Territory.

Statement 2 is incorrect- The **President of India** (not the Parliament of India) has the power to determine the number of judges in a High Court. As per Article 216 of the Indian Constitution, every High Court shall consist of a Chief Justice and such other Judges as the President may from time to time deem it necessary to appoint.

96. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is incorrect. Guwahati High Court has jurisdiction over four Northeast states in India- **Assam, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, and Nagaland (not Sikkim).** Sikkim High has territorial jurisdiction over the state of Sikkim.

Pair 2 is correct. The Kerala High Court has jurisdiction over the entire state of Kerala and the Union Territory of Lakshadweep.

Pair 3 is incorrect. The Calcutta High Court has territorial jurisdiction over the state of West Bengal and the Union Territory of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (not over Union territory of Puducherry). The court was established on July 1, 1862, under the High Court's Act, 1861. Whereas, the **Madras High Court has jurisdiction over the Union Territory of Puducherry.**

Pair 4 is incorrect. The High Court of Andhra Pradesh has territorial jurisdiction over the State of Andhra Pradesh whereas the High Court for the State of Telangana exercises territiorial jurisdiction over the States of Telangana.

97. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option c is correct- The procedure followed in both the houses of Parliament, to remove a Judge of a High Court in India is same as the procedure followed to remove a judge of Supreme Court. Article 217 1 (a) of the Constitution of India states that a Judge of High Court may be removed from his office by the President in the manner provided in clause (4) of Article 124 for the removal of a Judge of the Supreme Court. Again, **Article 124 (4) of the Constitution of India states that-**A Judge of the Supreme Court shall not be removed from his office except by an order of the President passed after an address **by each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two – thirds of the members of that House present and voting** has been presented to the President in the same session for such removal on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity. Hence by reading together Article 217 and 124 with respect to the given question, **option c is the correct answer.**

98. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect- The High Court **does not have original jurisdiction** in cases related to settlements of Union-States disputes. **Original jurisdiction (and also exclusive jurisdiction)** in such cases lies with the Supreme Court of India under **Article 131** of the Constitution of India. Article 131 confers exclusive original jurisdiction on the Supreme Court to adjudicate disputes:

1. between the **Government of India and one or more States** or between the **Government of India and any State** or **States on one side** and **one or more States on the other**;
2. between **two or more States.**

This means that only the Supreme Court can hear and decide these disputes in the first instance. The High Courts do not have any jurisdiction to hear these disputes.

Statement 2 is correct- The High Court has the authority to hear **appeals** regarding **judgments issued by lower courts and Tribunals.** This appellate jurisdiction is conferred by **Article 227 of the Constitution** of India. Article 227 gives the High Court the power to hear appeals from **judgments, decrees, or final orders** of any court or tribunal within its territory, except for those courts or tribunals that are specifically excluded by law. It includes **district courts, magistrate courts, and administrative tribunals.**

Statement 3 is incorrect- The high court **does not have advisory jurisdiction**. Advisory jurisdiction is the power of a court to give its opinion on a matter of law or fact, but the opinion is not binding. The only court in India that has advisory jurisdiction is the **Supreme Court of India.** The Supreme Court's advisory jurisdiction is conferred by **Article 143** of the Constitution of India.

99. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

As per **Article 227, the high courts** in India are being vested with quite extensive and effective powers. They are the highest court of appeal in the state. They are the protectors of the Fundamental Rights of the Citizens. They are vested with the power to interpret the Constitution. Besides, they also have supervisory and consultative roles.

Statement 1 is incorrect. A high court has the power of superintendence over all the courts and tribunals functioning in its territorial jurisdiction **except for military courts or tribunals.**

Statement 2 is incorrect. The power of superintendence of a high court is very broad, the high court **can be taking cases from the lower courts on the Suo-motu (on its own) basis and not necessarily only on the application of a party.**

100. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 222 of the Constitution provides for the transfer of a judge (including the Chief Justice) from one High Court to another. The proposal for the transfer of a Judge should be initiated by the Chief Justice of India, whose opinion is determinative in this matter.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The President holds the authority of transferring judges from one High Court to another High Court. But he carries this order after consultation with the Chief Justice of India.

Statement 2 is incorrect. In 1994, **the Supreme Court ruled that transfer of judges is subject to judicial review. In K. Ashok Reddy v Government of India (1994), the Supreme Court ruled that judicial review can be used to prevent arbitrary transfers of judges.** The court ruled that a transfer can be subject to judicial review if the transferred judge requests it for reasons such as lack of consultation or failure to follow the decision-making process. The courts have the authority to decide whether a transfer order was granted reasonably or as punishment. **However, only the transferred judge has the authority to challenge it.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. Article 222 of the Constitution provides for the transfer of a judge (including the Chief Justice) from one High Court to another. **As per the Memorandum of procedure the Chief Justice of India may initiate the transfer of a judge without the judge's consent.** The Chief Justice's opinion is final, and the consent of a Judge for his first or subsequent transfer would not be required. All transfers are to be made in the public interest i.e. for promoting better administration of justice throughout the country.

101. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The Constitution of India, under Article 214, provides for a High Court for each State. However, **the Parliament, under Article 231, may by law, establish a common High Court for two or more States or Union Territories.** This depends on the area and the population of the state or union territory.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Andhra Pradesh (Amaravati) and Telangana (Hyderabad) have separate High Courts from 1 January 2019.

- While many States have their own High Courts, Punjab and Haryana share a common High Court at Chandigarh, and four North Eastern states of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh have a common High Court at Guwahati.

Statement 3 is correct: As per Article 230 of the Indian Constitution- 'Parliament may by law extend the jurisdiction of a High Court to, or exclude the jurisdiction of a High Court from, any Union territory.' **Constitution does not grant any general jurisdiction to the High Courts (Article 225)** but states that their jurisdiction will be as it existed at the time the Constitution came into effect. Such **jurisdictions are subject to the laws made by Parliament and State Legislature.**

4.3. Subordinate Judiciary

102. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

The state judiciary consists of a **high court and a hierarchy of subordinate courts**, also known as lower courts. The subordinate courts function below and under the high court at **district and lower levels. Articles 233 to 237 in Part VI** of the Constitution deal with matters related to subordinate courts.

Statement 1 is incorrect: District judge are appointed by the governor of the state in consultation with the concerned high court (consultation with State Public Service commission is not required). However, appointment of persons (other than district judges) to the judicial service of a state are made by the governor of the state after consultation with the State Public Service Commission and the high court.

Statement 2 is correct: The district judge is the highest judicial authority in the district. He/she possesses original and appellate jurisdiction in both civil as well as criminal matters. He/she also has supervisory powers over all the subordinate courts in the district. Appeals against his/her orders and judgements lie to the High Court.

Statement 3 is incorrect: District judges are called Session's judges when they deal with criminal matters. **Session's judge has the power to impose life imprisonment as well as death sentence (capital punishment).** However, a capital punishment passed by them is subject to confirmation by the High Court, whether there is an appeal or not.

103. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1, 2 and 5 are correct: Under first and second schedule of Gram Nyayalaya Act offences like property disputes, Protection of rights under Civil Rights Act of 1955,

disputes related to the use of forest produce by inhabitants of Gram Panchayats, right to purchase of property, use of common pasture, regulation and timing of taking water from irrigation channel, the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 (25 of 1976), the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act etc. are covered.

Statements 3 and 4 are incorrect: Only petty criminal cases (punishable for a term of 2 years) are tried under the Gram Nyayalaya Act. Also, election disputes related to gram panchayats, according to 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act are adjudicated by relevant authority formed under the purview of respective state laws.

104. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Family Courts are established under the Family Courts Act, 1984 (not the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987). It was enacted to provide for the establishment of Family Courts to promote speedy settlement of disputes relating to marriage and family affairs.

Statement 2 is correct: It provides for only one right of appeal which shall lie to the High Court.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Parties are not provided with help of legal practitioner as a matter of right in family courts.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Family Court Act,1984 provides for the establishment of Family Courts by the state governments (and not the Central Government) in consultation with the High Courts.

105. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

Statement 1 is incorrect: Lok Adalat has jurisdiction to determine and to arrive at a compromise or settlement between the parties to a dispute in respect of any case pending before any court and for any matter which falls within the jurisdiction of any court and not brought before such a court (pre-litigation stage).

Statement 2 is incorrect: Lok Adalat deals with civil cases and criminal matters (compoundable offences). The offences which are non-compoundable in nature fall outside the purview of Lok Adalat.

Statement 3 is incorrect: An award of Lok Adalat is like a decree of civil court. So, the decision of Lok Adalat is final and binding on the parties to the dispute. Hence no appeal shall lie to any court. It reduces the delay in settlement of disputes.

106. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Gram Nyayalaya is a statutory body established under Gram Nyayalaya Act, 2008 for grass root delivery of justice.

Statement 2 is correct: Presiding officer of Gram Nyayalaya who is Nyayadhikari are appointed by state government in consultation with high courts.

Statement 3 is incorrect: As per provisions of the Act, it is mandatory to establish a Gram Nyayalaya at every intermediate panchayat or for a group of contiguous panchayat **and not in every gram panchayat.**

Statement 4 is correct: They can adjudicate both civil and criminal cases on the matters scheduled in the Act.

107. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Family Courts Act, 1984 was enacted by Parliament to establish specialized courts across India for resolving disputes related to marriage and family matters. These courts focus on conciliation, speedy disposal, and accessibility, and are designed to function in a less formal, more sensitive manner than conventional civil courts.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Family Courts are **established by the Central Act passed by Parliament**. The Family Courts Act, 1984 provides for the establishment of Family Courts by **the State Governments in consultation with the High Courts** to promote conciliation and secure speedy settlement of disputes relating to marriage and family affairs.

Family courts are not established under an act of state legislature.

Statement 2 is correct: The Family Courts Act, 1984 mandates the establishment of Family Courts in cities with a population of over one million. This provision ensures that urban areas with a large population have access to family dispute resolution through specialized courts..

Statement 3 is correct: Parties do not have a right to be represented by legal practitioners in Family Courts. The court may permit such representation when it is of the opinion that legal representation is necessary in the interest of justice. This is to maintain the **informal atmosphere** and promote **conciliation**.

Important Tips

1. The objectives of Family Courts include:
   a) Providing **inexpensive remedies**.
   b) Instituting a **mechanism for conciliation** in family disputes.
   c) Ensuring **flexibility and informality** in proceedings.
   d) Encouraging the involvement of **social welfare professionals** for mediation.
2. **Family Courts can frame their own rules of procedure**, which override the Civil Procedure Code.
3. In towns with a population exceeding one million, the **State Government is mandatorily required** to set up a Family Court.

108. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

India has a **pyramidical form of judicial structure, where district and subordinate courts are placed below the concerned High Court of the States**. In every district, the

subordinate courts are classified as civil courts, criminal courts, and revenue courts.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Judges of the District Courts and the subordinate courts are **appointed by the Governor** and not the High Court concerned. However, the Governor is required to consult the State High Court in matters related to such appointments.

Statement 2 is correct: A district court is **empowered to hear both- the original and the appellate cases. Further, it hears both civil as well as criminal cases.** Some cases must be exclusively heard in a district court, thereby granting the district court its original jurisdiction over these particular cases.

Statement 3 is incorrect: A district court is **competent to award even capital punishment.** However, such punishment must be confirmed by the State High Court, **whether or not any appeal has been made to it.**

109. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Indian Constitution has established an integrated judicial system. In this system, we have Supreme Court at the top, then state high courts below it. Then at the lowest level, we have a hierarchy of subordinate courts.

The judiciary at the lower level consists of district courts and subordinate courts. These courts deal with cases that arise in the district.

Statement 1 is correct. The District Court being highest court at the district level, **it has appellate jurisdiction over judgements of lower courts** where appeals against judgements of lower courts can be made. District court also possesses original and appellate jurisdiction in both civil as well as criminal matters.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Supreme Court has the power to punish for the contempt of any court or tribunal in India. The **High Court has the power** to punish for contempt of district courts and other subordinate courts. The Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 empowers the High Courts to try and punish for contempt of lower courts. Hence, District courts has no such power.

Statement 3 is correct. The District Court **can decide cases involving serious criminal offences.** It can decide all offences including those punishable with capital punishment (death sentence). However, a capital punishment passed by it is subject to confirmation by the High Court, whether there is an appeal or not. It also has the power to impose any sentence including life imprisonment.

Statement 4 is incorrect. Judicial review is the **power of the Supreme Court and the High Courts to examine the constitutionality** of legislative enactments and executive orders. Upon review, if they are found to be violative of the Constitution (ultra-vires), they can be declared as null and void by the Supreme Court and the High Courts (Not by district courts).

110. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: As per Article 233(2) of the Indian Constitution, **a person not already in the service of the Union or of the State** shall only be eligible to be appointed a district judge if he has been for not less than seven years an advocate or a pleader and is recommended by the High Court for appointment.

Thus, a person already in the service of the state is not eligible for appointment as a district court judge.

Statement 2 is incorrect: District judges are appointed by the Governor of the respective state, but after consultation with the High Court of that state, not the State Public Service Commission.

Statement 3 is correct: The power to transfer cases between District Judges within the same state rests with the **High Court. Section 407 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) grants the High Court the power to transfer cases and appeals,** allowing them to order a case to be inquired into or tried by a different court, or even by the High Court itself, if deemed necessary for fair and impartial justice.

111. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The **Grama Nyayalayas Act, 2008** was enacted to establish **village-level (rural) courts** for providing **accessible, speedy, and affordable justice** at the grassroots level, especially in rural areas where access to the regular judicial system is limited. These courts are aimed at **decentralizing justice delivery** and reducing the burden on regular courts.

Statement 1 is correct: The **Presiding Officer** of a Grama Nyayalaya, known as the **Nyayadhikari**, is **appointed by the State Government** in consultation with the **respective High Court**, not by the Governor. The Nyayadhikari enjoy the powers of a **Judicial Magistrate of the First Class.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Grama Nyayalayas have **jurisdiction over both civil and criminal cases**, as notified by the State Government. They can also function as **mobile courts**, holding trials at any place within their jurisdiction after giving proper notice. They follow a **simplified and flexible procedure**, aimed at resolving disputes efficiently.

Statement 3 is incorrect: As per the Gram Nyayala Act, **The State Government shall,** after consultation with the High Court, **specify the local limits of the area** to which the jurisdiction of a Gram Nyayalaya shall extend and may, at any time, increase, reduce or alter such limits.

Important Tips

1. Grama Nyayalayas are designed to promote **justice at the doorstep** of rural citizens and to uphold the directive principle under **Article 39A** of the Constitution, which mandates equal justice and free legal aid.
2. These courts are required to **dispose of cases within six months** of filing to ensure timely justice.
3. The **official language of the state** is used in proceedings, making them more inclusive and comprehensible to the local populace.

4. The law encourages **conciliation, plea bargaining,** and **informal resolution methods.**
5. Despite the progressive intent of the law, implementation has been slow: as per the content, **only about 5% of the planned courts are operational,** mainly due to **infrastructural gaps, jurisdictional confusion,** and **lack of awareness.**

112. Solution: (a)

Exp) option a is the correct answer.

The establishment of Commercial Courts in India is governed by the Commercial Courts Act, 2015, which was enacted to provide a mechanism for speedy resolution of commercial disputes.

The main goal of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015 is to ensure the speedy disposal of commercial disputes and make the judicial process more efficient in dealing with business-related matters. The **State Government,** may after consultation with the concerned High Court, by notification, **constitute such number of Commercial Courts at District level,** as it may deem necessary for the purpose of exercising the jurisdiction and powers conferred on those Courts under this Act. The Act also establishes Commercial Appellate Divisions in all High Courts to hear appeals against orders from Commercial Divisions of High Courts and Commercial Courts at the district level.

113. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Mediation Act, 2023** was enacted to promote and facilitate **institutional mediation,** ensure the **enforceability of mediated settlement agreements,** and encourage the use of **alternative dispute resolution mechanisms** in civil and commercial matters.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **Arbitration Council of India** is not established under the Mediation Act, 2023. Instead, the Act provides for the creation of the **Mediation Council of India** under **Section 31,** which will regulate and oversee the mediation process in India.

The Arbitration Council of India (ACI) was established under the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2019, which amended the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.

Statement 2 is correct: A **mediated settlement agreement** under this Act is deemed to be **final and binding** on the parties and is **enforceable in the same manner as a court judgment or decree** under the **Code of Civil Procedure, 1908,** as per **Section 27** of the Act.

Important Tips

1. The Act introduces provisions for **pre-litigation mediation, online mediation,** and **community mediation.**
2. It excludes certain matters from mediation, such as **criminal offences, tax-related disputes,** and those involving **minors or persons with mental incapacity.**
3. The Act prescribes a **120-day time limit,** extendable by 60 days, for the completion of mediation.
4. It ensures the **confidentiality** of mediation proceedings and protects communications from being used as evidence in court.
5. A **Mediation Fund** is also created to support mediation infrastructure and services.

114. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Appointments to the judicial service of a state (other than district judges) are governed by **Article 234** of the Indian Constitution.

Article 234 states that appointments of persons (other than district judges) to the judicial service of a state shall be made by the **Governor of the state.**

However, the Governor must act in consultation with the **State Public Service Commission and the High Court.** Judicial Service includes civil judges, magistrates, and other subordinate judicial officers, excluding district judges, whose appointment is governed by Article 233.

115. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Nari Adalats are specialised forums in India initiated to provide women with an alternative Grievance Redressal Mechanism. These adalats aim to offer accessible and speedy justice while promoting women's legal rights and empowerment.

Statement 1 is correct: Nari Adalat is a **component of Mission Shakti,** which is an integrated women empowerment program approved by the **Ministry of Women and Child Development. The Nari Adalat will not hold any legal status** as its primary focus will be on reconciliation, grievance redressal and creating awareness of rights and entitlements.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The head of a Nari Adalat is not appointed by district judge. Head of the Nari Adalat is known as the **Mukhya Nyaya Sakhi** or chief legal friend, is **selected by and from amongst the Nyaya Sakhis** and usually for a term of **six months.** Additionally, it's important to note that they focus on **reconciliation, grievance redressal, and raising awareness** about women's rights and entitlements.

4.4. Judicial Activism

116. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

As per the Supreme Court, "Public Interest Litigation (PIL) is a legal action initiated in a court of law for the enforcement of public interest or general interest. In simple words, **it is a litigation filed in the court of law, for the protection of public interests like pollution, terrorism, constructional hazards etc.**

Statement 1 is correct: In order to provide representation to the previously unrepresented sections, the concept of PIL was

originated and developed in the **United States of America (USA) during 1960s.** In 1960s the PIL movement began to receive financial support from the Office of Economic Opportunity. This encouraged lawyers and public spirited persons to take up cases of the under-privileged and fight against dangers to environment, public health, consumer interests and the weak sections.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The locus standi rule has been diluted for the PIL. Locus Standi means, a person whose rights have suffered, only he/ she can move to the courts to seek justice. **In PIL, any member of the public, like a public-spirited citizen or organization, can approach the courts for enforcing the rights of general public.** Judges themselves have in some cases initiated **suo moto action** based on newspaper articles or the letters received. **Bandhua Mukti Morcha vs. Union of India, Unni Krishnan vs. the State of Andhra Pradesh** are the examples were the rule has been relaxed.

Statement 3 is correct: Non-adversarial or inquisitorial system of litigation implies an active involvement of the court in the case investigation. In adversarial system, on the other hand, the Court acts as an impartial referee between the two litigating parties. **Supreme Court in People's Union for Democratic Reforms vs. Union of India has held that PIL is a non-adversarial system of litigation.** As a non-adversarial litigation, PIL has following aspects:

- **Collaborative litigation:** In collaborative litigation the effort is from all the sides I.e. the claimant, the court and the government or public official all are in collaboration to see that basic human rights become meaningful.
- **Investigative litigation:** This is because it works on the reports of registrar, district magistrate, comments of experts, newspapers etc.

Hence, the statement is correct as PIL is a non-adversarial system of litigation.

117. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Judicial review means power of the judiciary to **review the actions of the executive, legislature and the administration. Judicial activism denotes the proactive role played by the judiciary in the protection of the rights** of citizens and promotion of justice in the society. Through activism, the judiciary forces the executive and the legislature to discharge their duties.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Both the concepts of judicial review and judicial activism were originated in the USA. Judicial activism was introduced for the first time by **John Marshall** in the case of **Marbury vs. Madison (1803).** The term 'judicial activism' was coined **by Arthur Schlesinger Jr. in 1947** in an article in Fortune.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Both the terms- 'judicial review' and 'judicial activism' are not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution. However, the Constitution itself confers the power of judicial review on the judiciary. For example, Article 13 where Supreme Court can declare a law null and void if it violates the Fundamental Rights.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Only judicial review has been held as a part of the basic structure. In India Nehru Gandhi Case (1975), Minerva Mills case (1980), S.P. Sampath Kumar Case (1987), S.R. Bommai case (1994), I.R. Coelho case (2007) and in many other cases, judicial review has been considered as a basic feature of the Indian Constitution. **On the other hand, Supreme Court has time and again advocated to balance judicial activism with the judicial restraint to ensure separation of powers and maintain the autonomy of the judiciary.**

118. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Statement 1 is incorrect: Judicial activism is a judicial decision making whereby **judges render their personal views regarding a public policy. Judicial review is the power of the judiciary to examine the constitutionality of legislative/executive actions** of both the Central and State governments. **Article 137** of the constitution grants Supreme court the **power to review its own judgements and it is not a judicial activism.**

Statement 2 is correct: Judicial activism denotes the **proactive role played by the judiciary** in the protection of the rights of citizens and the promotion of justice in society for example the judicial innovation **public interest litigation (PIL).** Judicial overreach means overstepping of authority by judiciary and encroachment into domains of other organs of the state - legislature or/and executive for example recent Andhra Pradesh High Court order on the inquiry into a 'constitutional breakdown' in the State.

Statement 3 is correct: Judicial activism denotes the role of judiciary in policy making to protect the rights of individual for example **Vishaka guidelines** issues by the Judiciary to ensure sexual harassment free work environment for women. In contrast, **Judicial restraint means non-interference by judiciary in policy making** ie restricting its role to interpreting the constitutionality of laws/executive actions.

119. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Supreme Court has defined the PIL as "a legal action initiated in a court of law for the enforcement of public interest or general interest in which the public or a class of the community have pecuniary interest or some interest by which their legal rights or liabilities are affected.

Statement 1 is incorrect: PIL is **not explicitly mentioned under Article 142 of the Constitution of India.** Article 142 deals with the Supreme Court's power to pass orders for doing complete justice. In India, the PIL is a product of the judicial activism role of the Supreme Court. It was introduced in the early 1980s. Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer and Justice P.N. Bhagwati were the pioneers of the concept of PIL.

Statement 2 is correct: PILs can be filed in the Supreme Court under Article 32 (right to constitutional remedies) and in High Courts under Article 226 (power of High Courts to issue writs).

Statement 3 is correct: In PIL, litigation is undertaken for the purpose of redressing public injury, enforcing public duty, protecting social, collective, diffused rights and interests or vindicating public interest. PIL petitions **cannot address issues related to private disputes, such as landlord-tenant issues or service matters.**

120. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Public Interest Litigation (PIL) refers to legal actions filed in a court of law with the aim of safeguarding **"Public Interest,"** which may encompass concerns like **pollution, terrorism, road safety, construction hazards, and more.**

Statement 1 is correct- Public Interest Litigation (PIL) is a concept that has been developed by the Indian judiciary through judicial interventions. It is **not explicitly defined** in any statute or act.

Statement 2 is correct- The case of **Sunil Batra vs. Delhi Administration (1980)** played a significant role in the development of **Public Interest Litigation (PIL).** In this case, the Supreme Court of India allowed **a prisoner to file a PIL case on behalf of other prisoners** who were being subjected to **torture and inhumane** treatment. The Court held that any person could file a PIL case if they believe that the issue is important to the public interest.

Statement 3 is incorrect- Any public-spirited citizen, social organization, or lawyer can file **PILs** on behalf of the aggrieved person in the High Court or Supreme Court.

4.5. Tribunals & Important Judgements

121. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect. In the Menaka Gandhi case (1978), the Supreme Court had taken a wider interpretation of Article 21. The **court introduced the concept that the "procedure established by law" must not be arbitrary, unfair, or unreasonable**. Essentially, it incorporated elements of "due process of law" from American jurisprudence. The court emphasized that Article 21 protects not just against arbitrary executive action but also against arbitrary legislative action.

Option b is incorrect. Balaji Raghavan v. Union of India (1996) is a landmark judgement in which the Supreme Court of India **upheld the constitutional validity of Padma awards.** The Court held that the national awards, such as Bharat Ratna, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Shri, do not amount to titles within the meaning of Article 18(1) and hence do not violate Article 18(1) of the Constitution.

Option c is incorrect. In 2006, the Supreme Court delivered its judgment in M. Nagaraj v. Union of India. In this judgement, **the Court validated Parliament's decision to extend reservations for SC/STs in promotions** (reservation in promotion).

Option d is correct. The judgment of the Supreme Court in the Olga Tellis vs Bombay Municipal Corporation (1985) established the Right to Livelihood as part of the Right to Life. The Court held that the Right to Life, conferred by Article 21, is wide and far reaching. It does not mean merely that life cannot be extinguished or taken away. **An equally important facet of that right is the right to livelihood because no person can live without the means of living, that is, the means of livelihood.**

122. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) is a statutory body established under the provisions of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Act, 1992 and not the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985.

Statement 2 is incorrect. SAT consists of a Presiding Officer and two other members. The Presiding officer is appointed by the central government in consultation with the Chief Justice of India or his nominee.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Functions of SAT:

- To hear and dispose of appeals against orders passed by the SEBI or by an adjudicating officer under the SEBI Act,1992.
- To hear and dispose of appeals against orders passed by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- To hear and dispose of appeals against orders passed by the Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India (IRDAI).

123. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. Cognizable offences are those in which the police can investigate and arrest the offender without a warrant. In non-cognizable offenses, the police do not have the power to arrest a person for a crime without a warrant.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Cognizable offences are both bailable and non-bailable. Whereas non-cognizable offences are bailable.

Statement 3 is correct: Non-cognizable offences are less serious or grave in nature. Examples: cheating, forgery, defamation, public nuisance, etc. Cognizable offences are generally serious crimes. The Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 (CrPC states that an offence that is punishable with death, imprisonment for life, or imprisonment for more than 3 years shall be cognizable.

124. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The **First Information Report (FIR)** is the first step in the criminal justice process, now governed by **Section 173 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), 2023.**

Statement 1 is correct: The First Information Report (FIR) sets the process of criminal justice in motion. It is with the registration of an FIR that the police can begin their investigations into a crime. The law states that it is

compulsory for an officer in charge of a police station to register an FIR whenever a person gives information about a cognizable offence.

Statement 2 is correct: The **information about the cognizable offence can be given to the police either orally or in writing. The FIR usually mentions the date, time and place of the offence, details the basic facts of the offence,** including a description of the events. If known, the identity of the accused persons and witnesses is also mentioned. The FIR also states the name and address of the complainant.

Statement 3 is correct: The FIR is registered by the police in a prescribed format and is signed by the complainant. **Additionally, the complainant has a legal right to receive a free copy of the FIR.**

125. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) was set up in 1985 with the principal bench at Delhi and additional benches in different states. At present, it has 17 regular benches, 15 of which operate at the principal seats of high courts and the remaining two at Jaipur and Lucknow.

Statement 1 is correct: As per Administrative Tribunal Act 1985 **the Chairman and every other Member of the Central Administrative Tribunal shall be appointed after consultation with the Chief Justice of India by the President**

Statement 2 is incorrect: A person making an application to a Tribunal under the administrative tribunal act 1985 (which establishes Central Administrative Tribunal) may **either appear in person or take the assistance of a legal practitioner of his choice to present his case before the Tribunal.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: The CAT exercises **original jurisdiction in relation to recruitment and all service matters of public servants covered by it**. Its jurisdiction extends to the all-India services, the Central civil services, civil posts under the Centre and civilian employees of defence services. However, the **members of the defence forces, officers and servants of the Supreme Court and the secretarial staff of the Parliament are not covered by it.**

126. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

A quasi-judicial body is a non-judicial entity that has the authority to interpret the law and make decisions that are similar to a court of law. Quasi-judicial bodies can have more flexible and streamlined processes than courts, which generally adhere to more formal and established court rules and practices.

Option 1 is correct: The National Human Rights Commission is a statutory and a **quasi-judicial body (and not a constitutional) body**. It was established in 1993 under a legislation enacted by the Parliament, namely, the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. It has the **power to inquire into human rights violations and recommend remedial action.**

Option 2 is correct: Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) is a **quasi-judicial body** that conducts examinations and interviews for recruitment to various government posts and has the **power to take disciplinary actions.**

Option 3 is correct: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is a **quasi-judicial body that regulates the securities market, hears complaints,** and imposes penalties on violations, functioning as an adjudicatory authority in its domain.

Option 4 is correct: Article 280 provides for a **Finance Commission as a quasi-judicial body**. As rightly observed by Dr. P.V. Rajamannar, the Chairman of the Fourth Finance Commission, "Since the Finance Commission is a constitutional body expected to be quasi-judicial, its recommendations should not be turned down by the Government of India unless there are very compelling reasons".

Option 5 is incorrect: National Investigation Agency (NIA) **is not a quasi-judicial body.** It is a statutory agency under the Ministry of Home Affairs, primarily focused on investigating and prosecuting terror-related crimes. It has law enforcement powers rather than adjudicatory functions like a quasi-judicial body.

127. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Consumer Protection Act of 1986 (now governed by the Consumer Protection Act, 2019) provides for the establishment of Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions at the state, district, and national levels. Based on this Act, the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) was set up as the apex body to offer efficient and cost-effective resolution of high-value consumer disputes.

Statement 1 is correct: The NCDRC is a statutory quasi-judicial body established by the Parliament of India under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, to adjudicate consumer complaints and appeals concerning product defects, service deficiencies, and unfair trade practices at the national level.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As per the Act, the National Commission comprises of a President and at least four members. **The President and members will hold office for a term specified by the rules made by the Central Government, not exceeding five years** from the date they assume office, and **they are eligible for reappointment.**

Statement 3 is correct: As per the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, District Commissions had jurisdiction to entertain complaints where value of the goods or services paid as consideration does not exceed one crore rupees. State Commissions had jurisdiction to entertain complaints where value of the goods or services paid as consideration, exceeds 1 crore rupees, but does not exceed 10 crore rupees and National Commission had jurisdiction to entertain complaints where value of goods or services paid as consideration exceeds 10 crore rupees.

But because of increased workload and pendency of cases before the District Commissions, the Government notified

the new rules in 2021. As per the Consumer Protection (Jurisdiction of the District Commission, the State Commission and the National Commission) Rules, 2021, the new pecuniary jurisdiction, subject to other provisions of the Act, shall be as under:

1. District Commissions shall have jurisdiction to entertain complaints where value of the goods or services paid as consideration does not exceed 50 lakh rupees.
2. State Commissions shall have jurisdiction to entertain complaints where value of the goods or services paid as consideration exceeds 50 lakh rupees but does not exceed 2 crore rupees.
3. **National Commission shall have jurisdiction to entertain complaints where value of the goods or services paid as consideration exceeds 2 crore rupees.**

Statement 4 is correct: As per Consumer Protection Act of 2019, any person aggrieved by an order passed by the National Commission can file an appeal against **the order in the Supreme Court** within thirty days from the date of the order.

128. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Tribunals are specialized **quasi-judicial bodies** created to adjudicate specific disputes or hear matters related to specific areas of law, with the aim of reducing the burden on regular courts and expediting the legal process. The **42nd Amendment (1976)** introduced **Part XIV-A** of the Constitution, which includes **Articles 323A and 323B**, thereby providing constitutional authority for the **establishment of tribunals.**

Statement 1 is correct: Article 323A deals with the **establishment of Administrative Tribunals specifically for public service matters.** These tribunals address disputes related to the recruitment, service conditions, and other administrative issues of public servants.

Article 323B, on the other hand, allows the **establishment of tribunals for a broader range of matters**, including **industrial disputes, tax issues**, and other matters not covered by Article 323A.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Tribunals under Article 323A can only be established by Parliament. They are specifically intended for public service matters at the Union and State levels. In contrast, **Article 323B allows tribunals to be established by both Parliament and State Legislatures,** provided the matters fall within their respective legislative competence.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Article 323A provides for the creation of a single tribunal for the Centre and one for each State, or for two or more states. Importantly, there is **no provision for a hierarchy of tribunals under Article 323A. Article 323B**, however, allows for the **creation of a hierarchical structure of tribunals.**

129. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement a is correct: A charge sheet is a **final report filed by the investigating officer under Section 173** of the **CrPC and now under Section 193 of the BNSS (Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita).**

It is filed **after the investigating officer completes their investigation** in a cognizable or a non-cognizable offence. It includes details such as the names of the parties involved, the nature of the information received, the charges framed, evidence collected, statements of witnesses, and a list of accused persons, if any.

Statement b is incorrect: Filing a charge sheet is mandatory only in cognizable offences. Cognizable offences are those where the police have the authority to register a case and arrest the accused without prior approval or warrant from a magistrate (e.g., murder, theft).

Non-cognizable offences are less serious, requiring prior permission or warrant from a magistrate for investigation or arrest (e.g., defamation, public nuisance). **Filing a charge sheet in non-cognizable offences is not mandatory, and can only be filed by the investigating officer after the court orders an investigation.**

Statement c is correct: If **the investigating officer fails to file the charge sheet within the time limit** prescribed under the CrPC and now under the BNSS (**60 or 90 days**, depending on the severity of the offence, after the initial charge hearing), the **accused is entitled to default bail**. Recently, the Supreme Court stated that this provision of default bail is not merely a statutory right but also a **fundamental right under Article 21** of the Constitution.

Statement d is correct: Once the charge sheet is filed and the magistrate takes cognizance of it, the court examines the charges. If the court finds a prima facie case, charges are framed, and the trial process begins. This step transitions the case from the investigation stage to the trial stage, marking the **formal commencement of criminal proceedings against the accused.**

130. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) is a specialized judicial body established under the **National Green Tribunal Act, 2010**, to handle environmental protection and conservation of forests and natural resources.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Under **Section 18 of the NGT Act, 2010** the Tribunal is mandated to make and endeavour for **disposal of applications or appeals finally within 6 months of filing** of the same.

Statement 2 is incorrect. While the NGT has jurisdiction over civil cases related to environmental laws, it does **not** handle cases under the **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.** The Wildlife Protection Act cases are primarily dealt with by the regular courts or special courts, and not the NGT. However, the NGT can address issues indirectly affecting wildlife, such as deforestation or habitat destruction, through other environmental laws like: the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Unlike the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), whose orders are recommendatory, the **NGT's orders are binding** and have the same effect as a **decree or order of a civil court.** NGT's decisions are enforceable and can be appealed only in the Supreme Court within 90 days or in any High Court through a writ petition under Article 226 of the Constitution.

Important Tips

The NGT deals with civil cases under specific environmental laws, including:

- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974;
- The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess Act, 1977;
- The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;
- The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981;
- The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;
- The Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991;
- The Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

131. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

In 1948, the Madras government introduced the Communal General Order (Communal G.O.), allotting admissions to educational institutions based on caste. The case Srimathi Champakam Dorairajan & Anr. v. The State of Madras became the first to test caste-based reservations under the Constitution.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Supreme Court, in the Champakam Dorairajan case held that the **Fundamental Rights could be amended by the Parliament** by enacting constitutional amendment acts. As a result, the Parliament made the First Amendment Act (1951), the Fourth Amendment Act (1955) and the Seventeenth Amendment Act (1964) to implement some of the Directives.

Statement 2 is correct: Champakam Dorairajan was the first case to test if the Constitution permitted caste-based reservations for admission to educational institutions. In the case, the Supreme Court ruled that **caste-based reservations for admission to educational institutions violated Article 15 (1)** of the Constitution of India **and are, therefore, unconstitutional.** This prompted the government to introduce changes in the Constitution through the First Amendment that expressly provided for affirmative action in higher education.

132. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 323-A of the Indian Constitution added by the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976 empowers the Parliament to establish administrative tribunals for public service matters at both the Central and State levels. **Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985** enacted to implement Article 323-A provides for the establishment of State Administrative Tribunals (SATs).

Statement 1 is correct: State Administrative Tribunals (SATs) are established by the central government under Section 4 of the **Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985.** However, they are set up **only upon the request of the concerned state government. The Central Government issues the notification to establish the SAT.**

Statement 2 is correct: As per the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985, the **President of India** appoints the Chairman and Members of SATs after **consulting the Governor of the respective state.** The Chairman is usually a **retired High Court judge,** and other members are selected based on legal and administrative experience.

Statement 3 is incorrect: There is **no constitutional mandate** that every state must establish a SAT. States have the **discretion** to set up a SAT based on their needs. Some states, like Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, had SATs but later abolished them.

133. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Option 1 is incorrect: Administrative staff of the Supreme Court are considered part of the judiciary and are governed under **Article 146** of the Constitution. Since the judiciary is a separate organ, these employees are **not subject** to the jurisdiction of CAT.

Option 2 is incorrect: Secretarial staff of the Parliament is governed by **Article 98** of the Constitution and are under the direct control of the presiding officers of the Houses of Parliament. Given the **separation of powers and the independence of the legislature,** CAT does not have jurisdiction over them.

Option 3 is correct: All India Services (IAS, IPS, IFS) are common to both the Centre and the States but are clearly **within CAT's purview** regarding matters of service disputes, promotions, transfers, etc., when it pertains to Union-related service matters.

134. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Tribunals are **quasi-judicial institutions** established by law to adjudicate disputes related to areas such as **administration, taxation, environment, and service matters.** They aim to provide a **cost-effective, speedy,** and **decentralized** alternative to traditional court proceedings. The constitutional foundation for tribunals was laid by the **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976,** which introduced **Part XIV-A** (Articles **323A** and **323B**) into the Constitution.

Explanation:

Statement-I is correct: Both the **Parliament and the State Legislatures** are empowered to create tribunals for matters falling within their legislative competence, including **taxation.** This is enabled through **Article 323B,** which allows for the establishment of tribunals for specific subjects like **taxation, land reforms, industrial disputes,** and more.

Statement-II is correct: Article 323B clearly empowers both levels of the legislature—**Union and States**—to enact laws for the creation of tribunals to adjudicate matters mentioned under the Article.

Since **Article 323B is the constitutional basis for the legislative power mentioned in Statement-I, Statement-II explains Statement-I.**

Important Tips

1. **Article 323A** deals only with **Administrative Tribunals**, which **can be established by Parliament** (e.g., Central Administrative Tribunal and State Administrative Tribunals under the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985).
2. **Article 323B** is broader and includes tribunals on matters such as **taxation, land reforms, ceiling on urban property, elections, industrial and labour disputes**, etc.
3. Tribunals help **unburden traditional courts** and improve access to justice, especially in specialized fields.

135. Solution: (c)

Exp) option c is the correct answer.

The objective of a Zero FIR is to ensure the victim doesn't have to run from pillar to post to get a police complaint registered. The provision is meant to provide speedy redressal to the victim so that timely action can be taken after the filing of the FIR.

Statement 1 is correct. A Zero FIR allows for the registration of a First Information Report at any police station, irrespective of the jurisdiction where the offense occurred. **A Zero FIR can be filed in any Police Station by the victim, irrespective of their residence or the place of occurrence of the crime.** This ensures that the victim can report a cognizable offense without unnecessary delays due to jurisdictional constraints. The primary objective is to facilitate prompt action and prevent the loss of crucial evidence.

Statement 2 is correct. The concept of Zero FIR was recommended by the Justice Verma Committee, which was constituted in the aftermath of the 2012 Nirbhaya gang rape case. The committee aimed to address systemic issues in the criminal justice system, including the prompt registration of offenses against women.

136. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

In the landmark case of Kedar Nath Singh Case, a Constitution Bench of the top court upheld the validity of section 124A (sedition) of the IPC, but also attempted to restrict the colonial-era law's scope for misuse by trying to demarcate the difference between which acts amounted to sedition and which ones did not.

The Supreme Court said that any act that had the "effect of subverting the Government" by violent means or creating public disorder would come within the definition of sedition. It also upheld Section 505 (statements conducive to public mischief) as constitutionally valid.

137. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Civil law is concerned with activities committed by persons in which the harm caused can be reimbursed by compensation or monetary remedy. Criminal law deals with crimes that cause harm to people and are also crimes against society. The punishment for a crime is to imprison the perpetrator.

Accordingly,

Description of Violation/Event	Relevant Branch of Law	Explanation
Driving under the influence of alcohol	Criminal Law	**Option 1 is correct:** Driving under the influence of alcohol is a criminal offense under the Motor Vehicle Act. It can lead to fines, license suspension, and potentially imprisonment. Hence, it falls under the jurisdiction of criminal law.
An individual arrested for theft from a local grocery store	Criminal Law	**Option 2 is correct:** Theft is a criminal offense, and an individual arrested for theft would face criminal charges, potentially leading to fines, probation, or imprisonment. Hence, it falls under the jurisdiction of criminal law.
A company breaches a contract with a client by failing to deliver goods on time	Civil Law	**Option 3 is incorrect:** Breach of contract is a civil matter where a party has violated the terms of an agreement. The resolution of a case typically involves compensation or specific performance (eg. Under the Contract Act, 1872) and it falls under civil law.

Selling of illegal drugs on a tourist spot	Criminal Law	**Option 4 is correct:** Selling illegal drugs is a criminal offense that can lead to criminal charges, prosecution, and penalties, including imprisonment. This violation falls under criminal law.

138. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. Compoundable offences are those offences where the complainant (one who has filed the case, i.e. the victim), can enter into a compromise, and agrees to have the charges dropped against the accused. Compoundable offences are less serious criminal offences. In some cases, the court's permission is required before compounding.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Cognizable offence means an offence for which a police officer may arrest without warrant. Cognizable offences are usually serious in nature. In cognizable offences, the police can initiate investigation of the case without seeking permission from the Magistrate. In case of a non-cognizable offence, the police cannot arrest the accused without a warrant and cannot start an investigation without the permission of the court.

139. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: The 1st Amendment to the Indian Constitution was made in 1951. It primarily addressed **the issue of land reforms.** The amendment introduced changes related to agrarian reforms, freedom of speech etc.

Option b is incorrect: The 39th Amendment to the Indian Constitution was made in 1975 and primarily dealt with the **election of the President and Vice-President of India.**

Option c is correct: The 42nd Amendment, enacted in 1976, is often referred to as the "Mini-Constitution" of India. The amendment added a **new Part XIV-A to the Constitution titled** 'Tribunals'. **Part XIV-A consists of Article 323A** dealing with administrative tribunals and **Article 323 B** dealing with tribunals for other matters.

Option d is incorrect: The **44th Amendment, enacted in 1978, primarily aimed at undoing some of the changes made by the 42nd Amendment**. The amendment act declared that the **right to property** will no longer be a Fundamental Right. Article 31 and Article 19(1)(f) was completely removed from Part III and inserted in **Article 300-A** as a Constitutional right.

140. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Options 1,3 and 4 are correct: Clause 1 of Article 232B of the Constitution of India states that: The appropriate Legislature may, by law, provide for the adjudication or trial by tribunals of any disputes, complaints, or offences with respect to all or any of the matters specified in clause (2) with respect to which such Legislature has power to make laws.

Again, the clause 2 of the same article states that, the matters referred to in clause (1) are the following, namely:

(a) levy, assessment, collection and enforcement of any tax;

(b) foreign exchange, import and export across customs frontiers;

(c) industrial and labour disputes;

(d) land reforms by way of acquisition by the State of any estate as defined in Article 31A or of any rights therein or the extinguishment or modification of any such rights or by way of ceiling on agricultural land or in any other way;

(e) ceiling on urban property;

(f) elections to either House of Parliament or the House or either House of the Legislature of a State, but excluding the matters referred to in Article 329 and Article 329A;

(g) production, procurement, supply and distribution of foodstuffs (including edible oilseeds and oils) and such other goods as the President may, by public notification, declare to be essential goods for the purpose of this article and control of prices of such goods;

(h) rent, its regulation and control and tenancy issues including the right, title and interest of landlords and tenants

(i) offences against laws with respect to any of the matters specified in sub clause (a) to (h) and fees in respect of any of those matters;

(j) any matter incidental to any of the matters specified in sub clause (a) to (i).

Statement 2 is incorrect: While tribunals can interpret laws and regulations related to specific matters within their jurisdiction. **Constitutional interpretation is typically the domain of the Higher Judiciary** especially the Supreme Court of India and High courts. Tribunals are generally more focused on specific areas of administration, for example matters related to taxation, labor matters etc.

141. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

The Central Administrative Tribunal is a multi-member quasi-judicial body responsible for adjudicating disputes and grievances related to the recruitment and service matters of public servants, including All-India Services (AIS), Central civil services, and civilian employees of the defence services.

Statement 1 is correct: The CAT holds **original jurisdiction** concerning the recruitment and all service issues of public servants, including those in the **All-India Services (AIS),** the Central civil services, and civilian employees of the

defence services. Since the CAT has original jurisdiction over AIS service matters, it is true that AIS officers can directly approach CAT to redress their service-related grievances.

Statement 2 is correct: The appointment of members to the CAT **requires the approval of the Chief Justice of India. A high-powered committee headed by a Supreme Court judge** who in turn is nominated by the Chief Justice of India suggests people for appointments in CAT.

Once the **Chief Justice of India agrees** with the recommendations of this committee, the **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) reviews and approves them.**

Statement 3 is correct: The CAT follows the principle of Natural justice, and it is **not bound by the procedures established in the Civil Procedure Code**, which primarily applies to regular courts.

Statement 4 is incorrect: As per Supreme Court's Judgement in **Chandra Kumar Case ,1997, appeals against order of CAT must be made before High Courts first.** As a result, currently, any appeals against CAT orders must initially be submitted to the High Court and then only to the Supreme Court.

142. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is correctly matched- The **Maneka Gandhi case (1978)** is a landmark Supreme Court decision in India that **expanded the interpretation of Article 21 of the Constitution.** It ruled that this article guarantees various rights, including the **right to travel freely.** The case established the **right to personal liberty as a fundamental right** and emphasized the need for a **fair hearing** before depriving someone of their personal liberty.

Pair 2 is incorrectly matched- The **A.K. Gopalan case (1950) upheld the Preventive Detention Act of 1950,** ruling that **Article 21 did not require due process.** The case involved the detention of A.K. Gopalan and his challenge against the Act, emphasizing that the **right to personal liberty was not absolute**, while also validating the Act. **The Verdict delivered by the Supreme Court in A.K. Gopalan Case was overruled in the Maneka Gandhi Case.** On the other hand, in the **Madhav Jiwaji Rao Scandia case (1975)** the judgement **abolished of all privileges and titles** to princely ruler.

Pair 3 is correctly matched- The **Kihoto Hollohan case in India (1992)** is a landmark in interpreting **the Anti-Defection Law.** It clarified that **disqualification decisions under the Tenth Schedule can be reviewed by the judiciary.** However, **the Speaker's decision is final** unless it violates principles of natural justice or is made in bad faith.

143. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: In the 2017 case of Justice K. S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) & Anr. vs. Union of India & Ors., a unanimous nine-judge bench of the Supreme Court of India **declared the right to privacy a fundamental right protected by Articles 14, 19, and 21 of the Indian Constitution.**

Option b is incorrect: In the Suresh Kumar Koushal vs. Naz Foundation judgement (2013), the Supreme Court overturned the Delhi High Court's 2009 judgment that decriminalized homosexual acts, re-criminalizing homosexuality. The Court argued that the low prosecution numbers under Section 377 over 150 years were insufficient to challenge the law's constitutionality. It asserted that the legislature should address the desirability of deleting Section 377 from the Indian Penal Code.

Option c is correct: In the **2018 Navtej Singh Johar v. Union of India case**, the Supreme Court of India **decriminalized homosexuality**, striking down select provisions of Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code. The court asserted the LGBTQ community's fundamental rights, highlighting **the principles of equality (Article 14) and inclusiveness.** Section 377 was found to **infringe on Article 15, discriminating against LGBTQ individuals based on sexual orientation, and Article 19, limiting their freedom of expression.** Additionally, it **violated Article 21 by criminalizing consensual same-sex activity, which the court deemed a component of the right to privacy and personal autonomy.**

Option d is incorrect: In the landmark judgment of National Legal Services Authority v. Union of India (2014), the Indian Supreme Court recognized transgender individuals as the 'third gender' and granted them equal fundamental rights under the Constitution. It also mandated their right to self-identification of gender. Additionally, due to their social and economic backwardness, the court provided reservations for transgender people in educational institutions and employment.

144. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The term **"Cognizable offence"** is defined in **Section 2 (1) (g) of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023.** A Cognizable offence or case is defined as the one which an officer in-charge of a police station may **investigate without the order of a magistrate and effect arrest without warrant.** The Police have a direct responsibility to take immediate action on the receipt of a complaint or of credible information in such crimes, visit the scene of the crime, investigate the facts, apprehend the offender and take him before a Court of law having jurisdiction over the matter. Examples of cognizable offences include murder, rape, kidnapping, and theft.

145. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The doctrine of severability is also known as the doctrine of separability. As per this doctrine **when some particular provision of a statute offends or is against a constitutional limitation, but that provision is severable from the rest of the statute, only that offending provision will be declared void by the Court and not the entire statute.**

The doctrine of severability says that if good and bad provisions are joined together by using the word 'and' or 'or' and the enforcement of good provision is not made dependent on the enforcement of the bad one that is the good provision can be enforced even if the bad one cannot or had not existed, the two provisions are severable and the good one will be upheld as valid and given effect to.

On the other hand, if there is one provision which is capable of being used for a legal purpose as well as for illegal one, it is invalid and cannot be allowed to be used even for the legal purpose.

The **doctrine of severability was used in the case of Minerva Mills vs Union of India where section 4 of 55 of the 42nd Amendment Act, 1976 was struck down for being beyond the amending power of the Parliament and then it had declared the rest of the Act as valid.**

146. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Basic features of the constitution are certain features of the constitution which are essential for the functioning of the state. **Any change in basic features would alter the basic structure of the constitution.** Hence basic features are beyond the limits of the amending powers of the Parliament.

Pair 1 is correct: In the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973) the supreme court innovated the doctrine of basic structure to limit the power of parliament and to upheld constitutional supremacy in India. **The basic features added in this case** are **Federal character of the Constitution,** Supremacy of the Constitution, Republican and democratic form of government, Secular character of the Constitution etc.,

Pair 2 is correct: In the **Minerva Mills case (1980),** the Supreme court included **Harmony and Balance between Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles** as the basic features of the constitution. Other basic features included in by this case are Limited power of govt. to amend Constitution Judicial Review.

Pair 3 is correct: In the SR Bommai case, the Supreme court reiterated the principle of secularism as one of the basic features of the constitution. In this case the court held that the centre can impose president rule on the state which functions in contravention to the idea of secularism, which is basic feature of the constitution.

Pair 4 is incorrect: In the **M.Nagaraj case (2006),** the Supreme court reiterated the **principle of equality** as one of the basic features of the constitution. **Free and Fair elections** were included as basic feature of the constitution by the Supreme court in the **Indira Gandhi case (1975).**

147. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Commercial courts are specialised judicial bodies established to adjudicate disputes related to commercial transactions and contracts. Commercial courts, established under the **Commercial Courts Act of 2015,** specialise in adjudicating disputes arising from various commercial activities such as transactions of merchants, bankers, financiers, and traders. These disputes can include matters related to mercantile documents, joint venture agreements, partnership agreements, intellectual property rights, insurance, and other commercial areas.

Statement 1 is correct: Commercial Courts are **constituted by the respective State Governments** as per the Commercial Courts Act of 2015. The State Government, may after consultation with the concerned High Court, by notification, constitute such number of Commercial Courts at District level, as it may deem necessary for the purpose of exercising the jurisdiction and powers conferred on those Courts under this Act

Statement 2 is correct: Commercial disputes are indeed required to have **a minimum value of 3 lakh rupees** to be eligible for adjudication in Commercial Courts, as per the Commercial Courts Act. However, it's important to note that the Central Government has the authority to notify a higher value if deemed necessary. In 2018, the specified value for commercial disputes was reduced from the earlier 1 crore rupees to 3 lakh rupees, making a wider range of commercial disputes eligible for adjudication in Commercial Courts.

Statement 3 is correct: Before filing a suit in a Commercial Court, **parties are required to undergo compulsory mediation** through the Pre-Institution Mediation and Settlement Mechanism provided that an urgent interim relief is not sought. This process aims to encourage amicable resolution of disputes without the need for immediate legal action, and the Central Government may authorize Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 authorities to facilitate pre-institution mediation.

148. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Preamble of the Constitution of India serves as an introductory statement that encapsulates the essence and objectives of the Constitution. It declares India as a sovereign, socialist, secular, and democratic republic, committed to securing justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity for all its citizens. The Preamble sets the tone for the governance of the nation and reflects the aspirations of its people.

In the **Kesavananda Bharati case (1973),** the Supreme Court for the **first time** affirmed that the **Preamble is an integral part of the Constitution.** The Court emphasised the paramount importance of the Preamble, highlighting that the Constitution should be interpreted in accordance with the lofty principles articulated in the Preamble. In the LIC of India case (1995), the Supreme Court reaffirmed that the Preamble is an integral part of the Constitution.

149. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Lily Thomas v Union of India (2013) case pertains to the **disqualification of Members of Parliament or the Legislature** as the case may be and was pronounced by a two-judge bench comprised of Justices A.K. Patnaik and S.J. Mukhopadhaya in the year 2013.

It **declared Section 8(4) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, as unconstitutional.** Section 8(4) of the Act provided a loo**phole for convicted legislators to remain in office by allowing them to file an appeal against their conviction and obtain a stay on their disqualification.**

The judgement also held that political parties have a responsibility to ensure that candidates with criminal antecedents are not given tickets to contest elections. The judgement was seen as a significant step towards cleaning up the Indian political system and ensuring that individuals with criminal records or convictions are not able to hold public office.

150. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Section 173 of Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) contains provisions regarding the charge sheet. According to this section, charge sheet should contain the names, the nature of information, offences etc. All important questions are answered in the charge sheet.

Statement 1 is correct: A charge sheet is the **final report prepared by the police office or the investigative agency after completing their investigation.** It was also upheld by the Supreme Court in **K Veeraswami vs. Union of India and Others (1991)**, that a charge sheet is a final report of the police officer under section 173(2) of the CrPC.

Statement 2 is correct: A charge sheet **needs to be filed within the prescribed period of 60/90 days. Non-filling of charge sheet within the prescribed time will entitle the accused for the right to default bail.** In **Rakesh Kumar Paul case**, Justice M.B. Lokur of Supreme Court had held that since no charge sheet has been filed within the prescribed time, the petitioner was eligible for obtaining default bail. Therefore, the **prosecuting agency needs to show a sense of urgency** in the investigation of the case and omits or defaults to file a charge-sheet within the time prescribed, the accused would be entitled to be released on bail. **Also, the right of default bail is lost, once charge sheet is filed.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: Recently Supreme Court has held that **charge sheet is NOT a public document and it cannot be made publicly available. Section 74 of the Evidence Act** contains the details about the public documents and as per the Court's ruling, charge sheets cannot be called as public document under this section. The Court held that if it is made public, **it will compromise the rights of the accused, victim and investigative agencies.** It should be noted that **First Information Report (FIR) is a public document** and the Supreme Court has directed to publish copies of FIRs online (except in the sensitive cases).

151. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is correct answer.

The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 added a new Part XIV-A to the Constitution. This part is

entitled as 'Tribunals' and consists of only two Articles– Article 323 A dealing with administrative tribunals and Article 323 B dealing with tribunals for other matters.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 323A contemplates establishment of tribunals for **public service matters only,** Article 323 B contemplates establishment of tribunals **for certain other matters** such as (a) Taxation (b) Foreign exchange, import and export (c) Industrial and labour (d) Land reforms, etc.

Statement 2 is correct: Tribunals under Article 323 A can be established **only by the Parliament;** tribunals under Article 323 B can be established **both by Parliament and state legislatures** with respect to matters falling within their legislative competence.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Under Article 323A, only one tribunal for the Centre and one for each state or two or more states may be established. **There is no question of hierarchy of tribunals under Article 323A,** whereas **under Article 323B, a hierarchy of tribunals may be created.** For example, **there is hierarchy in form of appellate tribunal of respective tribunals such as** Income Tax Appellate Tribunal (ITAT), Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal (CESTAT), Competition Appellate Tribunal (COMPAT) and Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) etc.

152. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Kesavananda Bharati judgement was a landmark decision of the Supreme Court of India that outlined the basic structure doctrine of the Indian Constitution.

Statement 1 is correct: The Kesavananda Bharati case established the doctrine of the basic structure of the Constitution, which limits the Parliament's power to amend the Constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The **right to travel abroad was established as part of Article 21 in Menaka Gandhi v. Union of India (1978), a later judgment.** In Menaka Gandhi, the Supreme Court held that the right to travel abroad is an integral part of the right to personal liberty under Article 21.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Kesavananda Bharati case **did not state that Fundamental Rights cannot be amended at all.** However, any amendment must not alter the basic structure of the Constitution.

Statement 4 is correct: Kesavananda Bharati emphasized the **importance of Judicial Review as a component of the basic structure doctrine.** Judicial Review enables courts to examine the constitutional validity of laws and government actions.

153. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

A **First Information Report (FIR)** is a fundamental document in the Indian criminal justice system. It's the **initial report made to the police,** recording the essential information regarding the commission of a **cognizable offense**

Statement 1 is correct:

1) A cognizable offense is one in which the police are authorized to make an arrest without a warrant and

commence an investigation without the permission of a court.

2) **First Information Report (FIR) is typically filed for cognizable offenses,** because they necessitate immediate police action.

3) In cases of **non-cognizable offenses**, the police cannot make arrest without a warrant and are not authorized to start an investigation without the court's directive.

4) Hence, **to file an FIR under non-cognizable offence, the police require permission from the Magistrate to initiate the investigation, as per Section 155(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC).**

5) Therefore, **under certain circumstances, an FIR can indeed be filed for non-cognizable offences,**

Statement 2 is correct:

1) An **FIR must indeed be documented in writing by the responding officer, whether the complaint is made orally or in writing.**

2) In the context of criminal procedure, a First Information Report (FIR) is a crucial document that initiates the process of criminal investigation.

3) When an individual approaches a police station to report a criminal offence, **the police officer receiving the complaint is duty-bound to document it in the form of an FIR.**

Statement 3 is correct:

1) **The accused is entitled to request and obtain a copy of the FIR from the police station on payment of prescribed fees for the same.**

2) This is to ensure transparency and provide the accused with the necessary information to prepare for their defense.

3) It is also a part of the fundamental right **(Article 22)** guaranteed under the Indian Constitution, emphasizing the right to know the accusations and the basis of the arrest

154. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is incorrect: In the State of Madras vs Srimathi Champakam Dorairajan, 1951, the Supreme Court ruled that **in case of any conflict between Fundamental Rights (FRs) and Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs), the FRs would prevail.** The Court emphasized that the DPSPs must conform to and operate as subsidiary to the FRs. The court **further said as DPSP are unenforceable by court according to Article 37 of the Indian constitution and cannot override the fundamental rights contained therein.**

However, the Court also held that **Parliament could amend the Fundamental Rights through constitutional amendment acts.** Consequently, the Parliament enacted the First Amendment Act (1951), the Fourth Amendment Act (1955), and the Seventeenth Amendment Act (1964) to implement some DPSPs.

Pair 2 is correct: In the Golaknath v. State of Punjab, 1967, the Supreme Court ruled that **Parliament cannot take away or abridge any of the Fundamental Rights**, declaring them to be '**sacrosanct**' in nature.

The Court held that the **Fundamental Rights cannot be amended for the purpose of implementing the DPSPs.** This ruling effectively restricted the power of Parliament to alter or diminish the scope of Fundamental Rights through constitutional amendments, ensuring their primacy over the DPSPs.

Pair 3 is correct: In the Kesavananda Bharati & Ors vs State of Kerala case,1973, the Supreme Court ruled that while **Parliament has the power to amend the Constitution, including the Fundamental Rights, it cannot alter the basic structure of the Constitution.** The Court held that the **Fundamental Rights could be amended to implement the DPSPs**, but such amendments must not violate the basic structure doctrine, which preserves the core principles of the Constitution.

155. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Quasi-judicial bodies are essentially entities outside the traditional court system that have some legal authority. **A quasi-judicial** power refers to the power vested in the commission established by law, administrative officers, or bodies to determine the rights of those who appear before it.

Option 1 is correct. RBI is a regulatory body with quasi-judicial functions established in accordance with the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. Under its quasi-judicial function, it can issue warnings and impose penalties on banks for non-compliance with regulations, can also cancel licenses of banks etc.

Option 2 is correct. The Finance Commission of India is a constitutional body under article 280. It is formed under **Article 280** of the Indian Constitution. Finance Commission of India functions as **a quasi-judicial body**. It has the power of a civil court as it can summon anyone.

Option 3 is correct. Election Commission is a constitutional body under article 324 to ensure free and fair elections in the country. It has **quasi-judicial** powers. **It has the power to interpret and apply election laws and settle disputes arising out of elections.**

Option 4 is correct. The National Human Rights Commission is the watchdog of human rights in the country established under The Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. It is a quasi-judicial body having the powers of a civil court and its proceedings have a judicial character.

Option 5 is correct. Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) is the central recruiting agency in India under article 315. It has **quasi-judicial functions** like it is consulted in matters related to disciplinary actions affecting a government employee, etc.

INDIAN POLITY AND GOVERNANCE

CENTRE AND STATE EXECUTIVES

5.1. Union Executive

1. In the context of Parliamentary control over the executive in India, consider the following statements:

Statement I: The passing of the Censure motion in the Lok Sabha necessarily leads to the resignation of the Council of Ministers.

Statement II: The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I.
(b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II does not explain Statement I.
(c) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(d) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

2. Consider the following officials in the Union and State governments:

1. Governor of a State
2. Attorney General of India
3. Members of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)
4. Union Council of Ministers
5. Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)

As per the Constitution of India how many of the above officials hold office during the pleasure of the President?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

3. Consider the following statements regarding the election of the President of the USA and that of India:

1. Unlike the Indian President, the US President is directly elected by the people of the country.
2. Both the US and the Indian President are elected on the basis of the first-past-the-post (FPTP) system.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

4. As per the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

No person who is a member of an all India service can be dismissed from his/her office without a formal enquiry except when:

1. he/she is dismissed on the ground of conduct which has led to his conviction on a criminal charge.
2. the authority empowered to dismiss him/her gives it in writing that it is not possible to hold such an inquiry.
3. the President is satisfied that in the interest of the security of the State, it is not expedient to hold such inquiry.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

5. In the context of Central Council of Ministers in India, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: In case a minister disagrees with a cabinet decision and is not prepared to defend it, then he/she must resign.

Statement-II: The Minister shall hold office during the pleasure of the President.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct and Statement II explains Statement I.
(b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II does not explain Statement I.
(c) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(d) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

6. Consider the following pairs:

Types of Pardoning Power of President of India	Description
1. Commutation	Substitution of one form of punishment for a lighter form.
2. Remission	Reducing the period of sentence without changing its character.
3. Respite	Stay on the execution of sentence for a temporary period to enable the convict have time to seek pardon.
4. Reprieve	Awarding a lesser sentence in place of one originally awarded due to some special fact such as pregancy of the woman convict.

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

7. With reference to the financial powers of the President of India, consider the following statements:

1. A Money Bill can be introduced in the Lok Sabha only with prior recommendation of the President.
2. No demand for a grant can be made in the Parliament except on the recommendation of the President.
3. The President can make advances out of the Contingency Fund of India to meet unforeseen expenditure.
4. The President constitutes the Finance Commission every 5 years to recommend the distribution of revenue between the Centre and the states.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

8. Which of the following best describes "the Doctrine of Eminent Domain" in Indian legal context?

(a) The right of the citizen to own and sell private property.
(b) The power of the government to take private property for public use with compensation.
(c) The principle that all land belongs to the State by default.
(d) The power of the government to impose taxes on private property and income.

9. Consider the following:

1. Elected members of the Lok Sabha
2. Nominated members of Rajya Sabha
3. Elected members of the state legislative councils
4. Elected members of the state legislative assembly of Jammu & Kashmir
5. Elected members of the state legislative assembly of Puducherry

How many of the above are part of the electoral college that elects the President of India?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

10. Consider the following statements:

1. Unlike the President of India, the Governor of a state has constitutional discretion.
2. The office of the Governor of a state is an employment under the Cental government.
3. The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act (1976) made the advice of the Council of Ministers binding on the Governor.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 2

11. Consider the following statements with reference to the Vice-President of India:

1. Only the elected members of Parliament participate in the election of the Vice-President.
2. If the office of Vice-President falls vacant, a fresh election must be held within six months.

3. As per the Constitution, the Vice-President does not have a fixed tenure.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None of the above

12. With reference to the Prime Minister of India, consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution of India does not provide a fixed tenure to the Prime Minister.
2. S/he is responsible for appointing the ministers in the Union Council of Ministers.
3. The Oath to the Prime Minister is administered by the Chief Justice of India.
4. The Prime Minister is the supreme commander of the defense forces in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2
(b) 1 and 3
(c) 1 only
(d) 3 and 4

13. Consider the following statements with reference to the Union Council of Ministers (CoM):

1. The total number of Ministers, including the Prime Minister, in the Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15% of the total number of members of the House of the people.
2. The salaries and allowances of ministers are determined by the President of India.
3. The Council of Ministers does not cease to hold office even after the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.
4. The advice given by the CoM to the President cannot be called into question in any court.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1, 3 and 4

14. Consider the following statements with reference to the impeachment of the President of India:

1. As per the Constitution s/he can be removed from office only on the grounds of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.
2. The impeachment resolution to be introduced in the Parliament must be signed by at least one-fourth of the total members of the house where it's introduced.
3. To impeach the President, the resolution must be passed in each house by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the House.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 3
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 3 only

15. Consider the following statements regarding the Cabinet Secretary of India:

1. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approves the appointment of the Cabinet Secretary.
2. S/he has a fixed tenure of two years.
3. S/he is the administrative head of the Cabinet Secretariat.
4. S/he is the ex-officio Chairperson of the Civil Services Board.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 3 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

16. Which one of the following statements is correct regarding the Vice-President of India?

(a) A two-month prior notice must be given to the Vice-president before the resolution for his/her removal is introduced.
(b) As per the Constitution, s/he can be removed only on the grounds of violation of the Constitution.
(c) A resolution for his/her removal must be passed by both the Houses of the Parliament by a majority of the total membership of that House.
(d) S/he cannot vote on any matter in Rajya Sabha when a resolution for his/her removal is under consideration.

17. In context to the Indian Parliamentary system, which of the following powers is/ are vested in the Prime Minister of India?

1. S/he has the power to dismiss the Union Council of Ministers.
2. S/he has the power to declare war or conclude peace with any other country.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

18. Consider the following:

1. Policy formulation
2. Policy implementation
3. Administration of justice

In India, the bureaucracy is involved in how many of the above-mentioned functions of governance?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

19. Which of the following appointments in India are made by the President of India?

1. Judges of the Supreme Court
2. Judges of High Courts
3. State Election Commissioners
4. Ambassadors to foreign countries

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

20. Consider the following bodies in India:

1. National Crisis Management Committee
2. Atomic Energy Commission
3. Cabinet Committee on Security
4. National Security Council

Which of the following bodies are headed by or under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister of India?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

21. In which of the following situations can the President of India exercise his/her discretionary powers?

1. Veto over ordinary bills
2. Appointment of Prime Minister when there is no clear majority in Lok Sabha
3. Withdrawal of an ordinance

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

22. Consider the following statements in respect of Pardoning power of the President of India:

1. The petitioner seeking mercy has the right to an oral hearing before the President.
2. The President is obligated to provide reasons for his/her decision while exercising the pardoning power.
3. The exercise of pardoning power by the President is not immune from judicial review.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 2
(d) 2 and 3

23. With respect to the provisions regarding civil servants in India, consider the following statements:

1. The recruitment rules of all types of civil servants in India are made by the Parliament.
2. The Constitution empowers only the Parliament to impose reasonable restrictions on the fundamental rights of public servants.

Which of the above statements is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

24. A civil servant cannot be removed without giving a "reasonable opportunity of being heard" through an enquiry. But this safeguard will not be available to a civil servant in which of the following situations?

1. If s/he is removed on the grounds of conviction on a criminal charge.
2. If the removing authority is satisfied that it is not practicable to hold such an inquiry.

3. If President or Governor is satisfied not to hold an inquiry in the interest of state security,

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

25. With reference to Cabinet Committees, consider the following statements:

1. They are not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution of India.
2. Only cabinet ministers can become members of a cabinet committee.
3. The Attorney general of India is appointed by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3

26. While appointing the Prime Minister, the President of India is most likely to appoint which among the following -

(a) Leader of the largest party in the Lok Sabha
(b) Leader of the largest party in the alliance in the Lok Sabha.
(c) The leader of the largest party in the Rajya Sabha
(d) Leader of the largest party or alliance that has the support of the majority in Lok Sabha

27. With reference to the election of President of India, consider the following statements:

1. The value of each MLA's vote is less than that of each MPs vote.
2. The total value of votes of MPs of Lok Sabha is less than that of total value of votes of MPs of Rajya Sabha.
3. The total value of votes of all MLAs is nearly the same as the total value of votes of all MPs.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

28. With reference to Semi-Presidential system, consider the following statements:

1. It is characterized by a balance of power between three political bodies namely the President, the government headed by a Prime Minister and Parliament
2. Under the system both the Prime Minister and the President have executive powers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

29. Consider the following functionaries:

1. Elected Members of Parliament from Lok Sabha
2. Elected Members of Parliament from Rajya Sabha
3. Nominated Members of Parliament from Rajya Sabha
4. Elected Members of State Legislative Assemblies
5. Nominated Members of State Legislative Councils

Which of the above-mentioned entities are common to the electoral college for the election of President and Vice-President of India?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

30. With reference to the Constitutional provisions regarding the civil servants in India, consider the following statements:

1. A civil servant under certain circumstances can be removed from their office by an authority subordinate to that by which he/she was appointed.
2. A civil servant can never be dismissed or removed from his/her office without the conduct of an inquiry.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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31. Consider the following statements:

1. The All-India Services Act, 1951, empowers the Union Government in consultation with the State Governments to make rules for conditions of service of persons appointed to the All-India Services.
2. The persons appointed to the All-India Services can endorse an electoral candidate on a good will without any prior permission from the appropriate government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

32. Consider the following statements regarding the ordinance-making powers of the President of India:

1. The President derives the ordinance-making power from Article 123 of the Indian Constitution.
2. The President can promulgate an ordinance only when both the Houses of Parliament are not in session.
3. An ordinance requires parliamentary approval within six months of its reassembly, otherwise it ceases to operate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

33. With reference to the Cabinet Secretariat, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It functions directly under the office of President of India.
2. One of its functions is to send a monthly summary of the significant activities of all Ministries and Departments to the President, Vice President, and Ministers.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

34. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: The Indian Constitution does not provide for the system of legal responsibility of a minister.

Statement II: India follows the principle that "the king can do no wrong."

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

35. Which of the following majorities is required in the Rajya Sabha for the passage of a resolution to create an All-India Service?

(a) Simple majority (more than half of the members present and voting)
(b) Absolute majority (more than half of the total membership of the House)
(c) Effective majority (more than half of the effective strength of the House)
(d) Special majority (not less than 2/3rd of the members present & voting)

36. Consider the following Indian organizations/bodies:

1. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).
2. National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).
3. Central Hindi Committee.

How many of the above organizations are chaired by the Prime Minister of India?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

37. Consider the following situations in which land is acquired by the government:

1. Land acquired from minority educational institutions.
2. Land acquired from a person whose land is under cultivation within the statutory ceiling limits.
3. Land acquired which was earlier allotted by the State for religious purposes.

As per the Constitution of India, in which of the above situation's government must pay compensation for land acquisition?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

38. In the context of India, consider the following statements:

Statement - I: The total number of ministers in the Union Government, including the Prime Minister, shall not exceed 15 percent of the total number of members in Parliament.

Statement - II: 91st Constitutional Amendment Act,2003 placed restrictions on the maximum number of ministers in the Union government.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

39. With reference to Prime Minister's Office (PMO), consider the following statements:

1. Principal Secretary is appointed as the administrative head of PMO for a fixed tenure.
2. The functions of the PMO are defined under Government of India (Allocation of Business Rules), 1961.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

40. The responsibility of conducting the decadal census in India rests with the-

(a) Ministry of Home Affairs
(b) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
(c) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
(d) Prime Minister's Office (PMO)

41. Consider the following statements with reference to Presidential elections in India:

1. V.V. Giri is the only President who did not secure the required quota to be elected in the first round of counting of votes.
2. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy is the only President to be elected unopposed till date in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

42. Consider the following statements:

1. The office of Deputy Prime Minister was added to the Constitution of India under the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976.
2. Deputy Prime Minister is ranked third in the order of precedence after President and Prime Minister.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

43. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: The Prime Minister in India is generally considered as the first among the equals in relation to the union council of Ministers.

Statement II: The resignation of an incumbent Prime Minister automatically dissolves the entire Council of Ministers.

Statement III: The Prime Minister in India is responsible for allocating and reshuffling portfolios among the union Council of Ministers.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement II and Statements III are correct and both of them explain Statement I.
(b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I.
(c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I.
(d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct.

44. With reference to Indian Polity, who among the following is the ex-officio Chairman of the Civil Services Board?

(a) Prime Minister of India
(b) Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
(c) Cabinet Secretary
(d) Lok Sabha Secretary General

45. With reference to the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

Statement I: The President of India cannot ask the Union Council of Ministers to reconsider its decision on any matter.

Statement II: The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976 made the advice of the Council of Ministers binding on the President of India.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the statements given above?

(a) Both statement -I and statement -II are correct and statement -II is the correct explanation for statement -I.
(b) Both statement -I and statement -II are correct and statement -II is not the correct explanation for statement -I.
(c) Statement -I is correct but statement -II is incorrect.
(d) Statement -I is incorrect but statement -II is correct.

46. Which of the following is not a Constitutional prerogative of the President of India?

(a) Returning an ordinary Bill for reconsideration.
(b) Returning the Appropriation Bill for reconsideration.
(c) Dissolving the Lok Sabha.
(d) Summoning the Rajya Sabha.

47. In the context of Indian polity, consider the following:

1. President of India
2. Prime Minister
3. Chief Justice of India
4. Civil Servants
5. Comptroller and Auditor General of India

How many of the above are considered as part of 'political executive'?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

48. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Presidential' and the 'Parliamentary' systems of Government:

1. In a Presidential system, the President serves both as the Head of the State and Government.
2. In a Parliamentary system, the executive is accountable to the legislature.
3. In a Parliamentary system, the Head of the State is always an elected representative.
4. In a Presidential system, only the President can introduce a Bill in the legislature.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

49. Which of the following is not true?

(a) The President or Governor is immune from legal action for official acts.
(b) No Court can compel a Governor to perform any duty.
(c) A two months' notice in writing must be delivered to the Governor for bringing civil proceedings in respect of their personal acts.
(d) Courts are empowered to enquire the advice tendered by the Ministers to the President or Governor.

50. As per the Constitution of India, which among the following grounds is explicitly mentioned for the impeachment of the President of India?

(a) Violation of the Constitution only.
(b) Violation of the Constitution and proved misbehavior only.
(c) Violation of the Constitution, proved misbehavior and incapacity only.
(d) Proved misbehavior and Incapacity only.

51. Which of the following statements correctly defines the term 'Kitchen Cabinet'?

(a) It is the informal decision-making body with the Prime Minister as its head and may include his friends, family and ministers as its members.
(b) It is an extra-constitutional Parliamentary body to facilitate in-depth examination of policy issues.
(c) It is a group of members from the opposition parties that scrutinizes the policies and actions of the ruling government.
(d) It is a formal body that is collectively responsible to the Lower House of the Parliament for transacting government functions.

52. Consider the following:

1. Seeking information relating to the administration of the affairs of the Union.
2. Dissolving the Lok Sabha when the government loses confidence in the house.
3. Appointing the Prime minister when no party has a clear majority in Lok Sabha.
4. Delay the passage of ordinary bills passed by the Parliament, by not giving approval.

In how many of the above situations, the President can exercise discretionary powers?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

53. In relation to the Council of Ministers, why is the Prime Minister called the 'first among the equals'?

1. The President can appoint only those persons as ministers who are recommended by the Prime Minister.
2. The Ministers are Constitutionally required to communicate all decisions relating to their ministry to the Prime Minister.
3. The resignation or death of an incumbent Prime Minister automatically dissolves the entire Council of Ministers.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

54. Consider the following statements

1. It is necessary for the Prime Minister to have the support of the majority of the members in both the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha.
2. The President allocates portfolios to the Union council of ministers on advice of the Prime Minister.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

55. With reference to 'Semi-Presidential form of government', consider the following statements:

1. In this form of polity, President acts as head of the state as well as head of the government.
2. In this system, the President is generally elected directly by the citizens.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

56. In the context of Parliament of India, consider the following statements:

Statement I: A Bill becomes an Act only after the President of India has given assent to it.

Statement II: The President is an integral part of Indian Parliament.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement II are Statement II Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement I
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

57. The oath to 'Preserve, Protect and Defend the Constitution and the Law' is taken by:

1. President of India
2. Chief Justice of India
3. Comptroller and Auditor-General of India
4. Prime Minister of India

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 1 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3 only

58. With reference to 'President of India', consider the following statements:

1. To win the Presidential election, a candidate must secure more than 50% of valid votes polled.
2. In case of any delay in conducting the election of new President, the Vice President of India holds office until the President's successor assumes charge.

3. The voting for the Presidential election is done through an open ballot system in order to ensure transparency and integrity of the office.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

59. "In India, there is no provision in the Constitution for the system of 'Legal Responsibility' of a Minister". What does the above given statement mean?
(a) Ministers can freely speak in the proceedings of the Parliament or the State Legislature.
(b) Ministers cannot be called in the court of law without the permission of the President or Governor.
(c) Ministers are not required to countersign the orders of the President or the Governor.
(d) The Ministers are barred from engaging in any legal profession.

60. With reference to the Cabinet Committees in India, consider the following statements:
1. The provisions related to Cabinet Committees are explicitly mentioned in the Indian Constitution.
2. Only cabinet ministers can become members of the Cabinet Committees.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 Only
(b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

61. With respect to position of Prime Minister in India, consider the following statements:
1. S/he is directly elected by the people.
2. As per the Constitution of India, he/she serves for a fixed tenure of 5 years.
3. The Speaker administers the oaths of office and secrecy to the Prime Minister before he/she assumes office.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None of the above

62. Consider the following qualifications:
1. The age must be a minimum of 30 years.
2. Must be eligible to be elected as a member of the Lok Sabha.
3. Must not hold any office of profit.
4. Must be qualified to be elected as a member of the Rajya Sabha

How many of the above qualifications are explicitly mentioned in the Constitution of India, for a person to be eligible for election to the office of President?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

63. With reference to ordinance making power of President, consider the following statements:
1. It cannot be promogulated when only one of the houses is not in session.
2. The President's satisfaction can be questioned on the grounds of being malafide.
3. Successive repromulgation of the same ordinance without any attempt to get the bills passed amounts to violation of the Constitution.
4. A constitutional amendment can be made through the ordinance route.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

64. The President cannot use the Suspensive Veto in case of which of the following types of bills?
1. When the bill is sent back to the Parliament by the President and the same is passed again by Parliament, with or without changes, and presented again to the President.
2. When the bill presented to President is a Money Bill.
3. When a Constitutional Amendment Bill comes to the President for his consideration.
4. When state ordinary bills are reserved for the President's consideration.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

65. With respect to Financial Emergency in India, consider the following statements:

1. Repeated parliamentary approval is not necessary for the continuation of a Financial Emergency.
2. It has been proclaimed only once in India since Independence, in 1991 during a balance of payment crisis.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

66. Consider the following statements about the Indian polity:

Statement I: The Prime Minister is called the Linchpin of the Government.

Statement II: The Prime Minister acts as a link between the Council of Ministers on the one hand and the President and parliament on the other hand.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

67. With respect to the election of the President, consider the following statements:

1. Elected as well as nominated members of state legislative councils form part of the electoral college for the election of the President.
2. The value of votes of all members of parliament is equal whereas value of vote of members of legislative assembly changes from state to state.
3. Where a state legislative assembly is dissolved, the members are not qualified to vote in the presidential election.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

68. In the context of Indian polity, consider the following situations:

1. The term of the President ends and the election of the new President is delayed.
2. The President resigns from his/her office.
3. The President is unable to perform his/her duties due to illness.
4. The President is impeached.

In how many of the above situations does the Vice-President discharge the functions of the President?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

69. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The President can remove a Union minister based on the recommendations of the Prime Minister.

Statement-II: The Union ministers are individually responsible to the Prime Minister.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-1 is correct Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-1 is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

70. With reference to the 'Central Council of Ministers (CoM)', consider the following statements:

1. They continue to remain in the office even after the dissolution of Lok Sabha.
2. Advice tendered by the Council of Ministers (CoM) to the President of India cannot be enquired in a court.
3. The constitution classifies the members of a council of ministers into different ranks.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

71. Consider the following scenario:

"An individual was found guilty under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, and sentenced to seven years of rigorous imprisonment. Considering the convict's good behavior, the President of India reduced the sentence from seven years to three years of rigorous imprisonment."

In the above scenario, the President of India can exercise which of the following pardoning powers under Article 72 of the Indian Constitution?

(a) Reprieve
(b) Commutation
(c) Remission
(d) Respite

72. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The President cannot use Suspensive Veto in the case of Money bills.

Statement-II: The 24th Constitutional Amendment Act made it obligatory for the President to give his assent to money bills.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

73. In the context of Prime Minister of India, consider the following statements:

1. His/her resignation leads to automatic dissolution of the Council of Ministers.
2. S/he advises the President for the allocation and re-shuffling of portfolios among the ministers.
3. S/he is the supreme commander of the armed forces.
4. S/he is always the leader of the Lower house of Parliament.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 1, 2 and 4
(c) 1, 3 and 4
(d) 1 and 2 only

74. With reference to the office of Vice President of India, consider the following statements:

1. The secret ballot system is followed for the election of the Vice-president.
2. The qualification required to be elected to the office of Vice-President is exactly the same as that of President.
3. No ground for the removal of Vice President has been mentioned in the Indian constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

75. With reference to the legislative powers of the President of India, consider the following types of bills:

1. Money Bill introduced in the Parliament
2. Election of the President and its manner
3. A bill that aims to alter the boundaries of a state
4. State bills imposing restrictions on the freedom of trade within that state
5. Parliamentary Bills affecting taxation in which states legislature is interested

How many of the types of bills mentioned above require prior permission of the President for its introduction?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

76. In the context of Indian Polity, consider the following statements:

Statement–I: No criminal proceedings shall be instituted against the Governor of state during his/her term of office.

Statement-II: As per Article 14 of the Indian Constitution, India follows Right to Equality before law.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

77. Consider the following statements regarding the 'veto powers' of the President and the Governor:

1. Only the President and not the Governor is empowered to exercise Suspensive Veto over the Ordinary Bills.
2. Neither the President nor the Governor has any Veto Power in case of Money Bills.
3. The Governor has no veto power once a state bill is reserved for the President's consideration.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

78. Consider the following statements regarding impeachment of the President of India:

1. Impeachment of President of India is a quasi-judicial procedure in Parliament.
2. The ground for the President's impeachment is "violation of the constitution", which is well defined in the Constitution.
3. Both the houses of the Parliament enjoy the same power with respect to impeachment of President.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

79. With reference to Cabinet Committees, which of the following statements are correct?

1. They are the neither statutory nor constitutional bodies.
2. They are set up by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.
3. They are an organisational device to manage the workload of the Cabinet.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

80. Consider the following statements regarding the constitutional position of the President and the Governor:

1. The Constitution provides much wider discretionary powers to the President than the Governor.
2. The President is the final and only authority to decide on doubts/disputes regarding the discretionary powers of the Governor.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

81. In which of the following conditions, the Vice-President of India can act as the President or discharge the functions of the President?

1. When the President resigns from his/her post.
2. When there is a delay in conducting the election of new President.
3. When the post becomes vacant due to death of the President.
4. When the President is unable to discharge his functions due to absence or illness.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

82. Consider the following statements regarding pardoning power of the President of India:

1. When the punishment or sentence is for an offence against Union Law.
2. When the punishment or sentence is by a court martial (military court).
3. In case of a death sentence.

The Constitution empowers the President to exercise the pardoning powers in which of the above given circumstances?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

83. With reference to Groups of Ministers, which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. They are ad-hoc bodies constituted to look into different issues.
2. They are set up under the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961.
3. No Group of Ministers has been set up after 2014.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

84. With reference to Articles 358 and 359 of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:
1. Article 358 operates only when the Emergency is declared on the ground of armed rebellion.
2. Article 359 authorizes the President to suspend Fundamental rights including those provided under Articles 20 and 21.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

85. Consider the following statements regarding the election of the President of India:
1. To be elected as the President, the candidate needs to be qualified to become a member of the Lok Sabha.
2. A Member of Parliament can contest the election to become the President without resigning from his/her seat.
3. No President of India has been elected unopposed till now.

Which of the above given statements are ***incorrect?***
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

5.2. State Executive

86. Consider the following statements in the context of Indian Constitution:

Statement I: Office of a Governor of a state in India is an employment under the Central Government.

Statement II: The Governor is appointed by the President on the recommendations of the Central Government.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
(b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
(c) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(d) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

87. With regard to the clemency power of Governor of a state and the President of India, consider the following statements:
1. The President can suspend a punishment awarded by a military court whereas the Governor cannot.
2. The President can commute a punishment awarded by a central law whereas, the Governor can commute a punishment awarded by a state law.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

88. With reference to the Governor of a State in India, consider the following statements:
1. S/he is appointed by the President of India.
2. S/he can be removed from his/her office only through a formal process of impeachment.
3. Unlike the President of India, the Governor of a State does not have any discretionary powers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

89. With reference to the powers of the Governor of a state, consider the following statements:
1. Money bills can only be introduced in a State Legislature with the prior recommendation of the Governor.
2. Demand for a grant can be made in a State Legislature only with the prior recommendation of the Governor.
3. The Governor has the authority to make an advance out of the Contingency Fund of the State.
4. The Governor constitutes the State Finance Commission every five years to review the financial positions of local bodies.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

90. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the powers and functions of the Chief Minister of a State in India?
1. S/he serves as the Vice-Chairman of the Inter-State Council on a rotational basis.
2. S/he is the ex-officio Chancellor of the state universities.
3. S/he is the chief spokesman of the state government.
4. S/he serves as the Chairman of the State Planning Board.

Select the answer using the code given below:
(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 1, 3 and 4
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 3 and 4 only

91. For how many of the following states is it constitutionally obligatory there shall be a Minister in charge of tribal welfare?
1. Chhattisgarh
2. Jharkhand
3. Madhya Pradesh
4. Odisha
5. Rajasthan

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 2
(b) 3
(c) 4
(d) 5

92. In which of the below case(s) ordinance cannot be promulgated by the Governor of a state without the instructions from the President of India?
1. If the ordinance is related to provisions which endanger the constitutional position of the High Court.
2. If the ordinance is related to subjects of concurrent list.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

93. Where the same person is appointed as Governor of two or more States, the emoluments and allowances payable to the Governor shall be -
(a) allocated among the States in such proportion as the Parliament by law determines.
(b) shared between the Union and the states.
(c) as decided by the Union Home Ministry.
(d) allocated among the States in such proportion as the President may by order determine.

94. Who among the following can make provisions for discharge of functions of Governor in any contingency not provided in the constitution?
(a) President
(b) State Legislatures
(c) Prime Minister
(d) Parliament of India

95. With reference to the office of the Governor in India, consider the following statements:
1. A person appointed as Governor shall not be a member of either House of Parliament or the Legislature of any State.
2. The oath of office to the Governor is administered by the Chief Justice of the High court exercising jurisdiction in relation to the state.
3. The salaries and allowances of the Governor are determined by the Parliament.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

96. Consider the following posts in the context of Indian polity:
1. State Election Commissioner
2. Chairman of the State Public Service Commission
3. Advocate General of the State
4. Chief Secretary of the State

How many of the above are appointed by the Governor of the State?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

97. With reference to the post of Deputy Chief Minister in Indian states, consider the following statements:
1. As per Article 164 of Indian Constitution, every state shall have a Deputy Chief Minister.
2. The post of Deputy Chief Minister is equivalent to the rank of a cabinet minister in the state.
3. If the Chief Minister's seat falls vacant, the Deputy Chief Minister must assume office until a new Chief Minister is appointed by the Governor.

Which of the statements given above are ***incorrect***?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, and 3

98. Consider the following statements :

Statement - I: The President or the Governor shall be personally liable for any contract made in the discharge of duties under the Constitution of India.

Statement - II: All contracts under the executive power of the Union or a State shall be expressed to be made in the name of the President or the Governor of that State.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

99. With reference to Ordinance making power of Governor, consider the following statements:
1. It is a discretionary power of the Governor.
2. In case of an Unicameral legislature in the state the Governor can promulgate an ordinance only when the Legislative Assembly of the state is not in session.
3. An ordinance will cease to operate if not approved by the state legislature within 6 weeks of its promulgation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

100. In case of which of the following types of bills, the Governor has to obligatorily reserve them for the consideration of President, after they have been passed by the State Legislature?
1. If the bill endangers the position of the state High Court.
2. If the bill is dealing with compulsory acquisition of property.
3. If the bill is against the provisions of Directive Principles of State Policy.
4. If the bill is against the larger interest of the country

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

101. Consider the following statement regarding judicial powers of Governor of a State:
1. S/he appoints judges to the High Courts of concerned States.

2. S/he appoints the judges of the District Courts after consulting with the High Court of the state concerned.
3. S/he appoints persons to the judicial service of the state, after consulting with the State Public Service Commission.

Which of the above statements is/are ***incorrect?***

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) None of the above

102. With respect to Ministry of Tribal Welfare, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The provision for appointing Minister in charge of Tribal Welfare in some states was introduced by 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act.
2. All the states having scheduled areas must create a separate ministry for tribal welfare.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

103. With reference to the state council of ministers, consider the following statements:

1. The salaries and allowances of the State Council of Ministers are decided by the Governor.
2. A person who is not a member of the either house of the Legislature of the state, can be a minister for a maximum period of 6 months.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

104. To which of the following is a minister of state government responsible in his individual capacity?

(a) Governor of the state
(b) Chief Minister of the state
(c) State Legislative Assembly
(d) State Legislative Council

105. When the same person is appointed as a Governor of two or more States, the emoluments and allowances payable to the Governor shall be-

(a) It shall be allocated among the States in such proportion as determined by the Parliament.
(b) It shall be shared between the Union and the states.
(c) As decided by the Home Ministry
(d) It shall be allocated among the States in such proportion as the President may by order determine.

106. Consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution of India does not provide any discretionary powers to the Governor of a state.
2. The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976 made ministerial advice binding on the Governor of a state.

Which of the statements given above is/are **incorrect?**

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

107. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: The Governor of a State has the power of qualified veto over a bill passed by the State Legislature.

Statement II: The Constitution of India does not provide any time limit for the Governor to act on a bill passed by the State Legislature.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
(b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, but Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
(c) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(d) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

108. With reference to Chief Secretary of a state, consider the following statements:

1. He is the ex-officio head of the State Civil Services Board.
2. He has a fixed tenure of 2 years.
3. He looks after all those matters which do not fall within the purview of other secretaries

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3 only

109. Consider the following statements:

Statement–I: The Chief Minister of a state has no fixed tenure.

Statement-II: The Chief Minister of state holds the office during the pleasure of the Governor.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

110. Which of the following statements is/ are correct regarding the judicial powers of the Governor of a state?

1. He appoints the judges of the State High Court and the District Courts.
2. A death sentence given by a District Court must be confirmed by the Governor.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

111. With regard to the office of Governor, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. No civil proceedings can be conducted against him during his term of office.
2. The oath of office of the Governor is administered by the President.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

112. Consider the following statements about various legal provisions regarding the state executive:

1. A Chief Minister convicted of any offence is disqualified from holding his office with immediate effect.
2. The Governor cannot retain a Minister in the Council of Ministers against the wishes of the Chief Minister.
3. The Governor can sanction the prosecution of Ministers under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 only

113. The Governor submits reports of which of the following bodies to the State Legislature?

1. The State Finance Commission
2. The State Information Commission
3. The State Public Service Commission
4. The State Human Rights Commission

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

114. With reference to powers and functions of Governor of a state, consider the following statements:

1. S/he appoints the Advocate General of the respective state and determines his/ her remuneration.
2. S/he decides on the question of disqualification of members of the state legislature in consultation with the State Election Commission.
3. S/he is consulted by the Chief Justice of India while appointing the judges of High Court of the concerned state.
4. S/he is the ex-officio Chancellor of the state universities.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 2 and 4 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2 and 4 only

115. With reference to removal of Governor of a state, consider the following statements:

1. The President can remove a Governor even without granting him an opportunity to be heard.
2. As per the Constitution, the Governor of a state can only be removed on the ground of violation of the Constitution.
3. The President must remove the Governor if the state legislature passes a resolution to that effect with special majority.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

116. Consider the following statements regarding the Council of Ministers in states:

1. The Constitution itself prescribes the maximum and minimum strength of the Council of Ministers in states.
2. The advice given by the Council of Ministers to the Governor cannot be questioned in any court.
3. In the Order of Precedence, Cabinet Ministers in a state rank lower than the Attorney General of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

SOLUTIONS

5.1. Union Executive

1. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

A censure motion is a formal expression of severe disapproval, primarily targeting the government or a specific minister within it. This motion is **exclusively introduced in the Lok Sabha and requires specific reasons** to be provided.

Statement I is incorrect. The passage of censure motion doesnot necessarily leads to resignation of the resignation of the Council of Ministers. A censure motion can be passed without necessarily resulting in the fall of the government.

It is different from a **no-confidence motion**, which **directly tests the majority support** of the Council of Minister (CoM) in the House. If a **no-confidence motion is passed**, the CoM **must resign** as per **Article 75** of the Constitution.

Statement II is correct. Article 75 of the Constitution clearly states that the **Council of Ministers shall be collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha**. This means the CoM functions as a single unit and **sinks or swims together**. If the Lok Sabha withdraws its support, the entire CoM, including the Prime Minister, must resign. This principle enforces the accountability of the executive to the directly elected House of the People.

2. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The expression **"holds office during the pleasure of the President"** refers to a constitutional provision wherein certain officials can be removed by the President based on the advice of the Council of Ministers. Such officials/ offices do not have any specific grounds or procedures mentioned for their removal.

Option 1 is correct. The **Governor** holds office **during the pleasure of the President** as per **Article 156** of the Constitution. Although the Governor has a five-year term, he or she can be removed by the President at any time. However, the President acts on the advice of the Union Council of Ministers.

Option 2 is correct. The **Attorney General (AGI)** also holds office **during the pleasure of the President**, as mentioned in **Article 76**. There is no fixed tenure for the AGI, and the President may remove the AGI at any time.

Option 3 is incorrect. Members of the UPSC do not hold office during the pleasure of the President. Their removal is governed by **Article 317.** The President of India has the authority to remove the Chairman or any other member of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) under specific circumstances. These include:

(a) If the individual is declared insolvent (i.e., declared bankrupt);

(b) If, during their tenure, they engage in any paid employment outside the responsibilities of their office; or

(c) If, in the President's opinion, the individual is unfit to continue in office.

Apart from these grounds, a member or the Chairman of the UPSC may also be removed for misbehaviour. However, in such cases, the President is constitutionally required to refer the matter to the Supreme Court for an inquiry.

Option 4 is correct. Union Ministers hold office during the pleasure of the President, as stated in **Article 75**. In practice, the President acts on the **advice of the Prime Minister**, who can recommend the removal of a minister.

Option 5 is incorrect. The **Chief Election Commissioner does not hold office during the President's pleasure.** The **CEC enjoys security of tenure**, and his or her removal is governed by **Article 324**. He cannot be removed from his office except in the same **manner and on the same grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court**. In other words, he can be removed by the president on the basis of a resolution passed to that effect by both the Houses of Parliament with special majority, either on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity.

3. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

India follows a highly centralized framework in its Presidential elections which is managed by the Election Commission of India. The U.S., on the other hand, employs a decentralized approach with individual states overseeing the Presidential elections.

Statement 1 is incorrect. In both the US and India, an electoral college determines who will be the President of India. In the US, the President is elected by the Electoral College, which consists of Electors chosen by voters through popular vote (Electors represent states in the Electoral College).

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Indian President is elected through a Proportional Representation system with a single transferable vote (STV) method, which is entirely different from FPTP.

In the U.S., voting methods vary across states. **While FPTP is the norm for presidential elections, some states (like Maine Alaska and Nevada) have adopted ranked-choice voting (RCV).** Ranked-choice voting allows voters to rank candidates by preference. If no candidate receives over 50% of first-choice votes, the lowest-ranking candidate is eliminated, and their votes are redistributed to the next preference. This process continues until a candidate secures a majority and wins.

4. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Under normal circumstances, government employees in India enjoy constitutional safeguards under **Article 311** of the Indian Constitution. This Article ensures that a civil servant cannot be **dismissed, removed, or reduced in rank** without an **inquiry** and an opportunity to be heard.

Statement 1 is correct: An employee can be **dismissed without an inquiry** where a person is dismissed or removed or reduced in rank on the ground of conduct **which has led to his conviction on a criminal charge.**

Statement 2 is correct: An employee can be **dismissed without an inquiry where the authority empowered to dismiss or remove a person or to reduce him in rank is satisfied that for some reason, to be recorded by that authority in writing, it is not reasonably practicable to hold such inquiry.**

Statement 3 is correct: An employee can be **dismissed without an inquiry if the President or the Governor, as the case may be, is satisfied that in the interest of the security of the State, it is not expedient to hold such inquiry.**

5. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

Statement I is correct: Since **Article 75** insists on the principle of **collective responsibility**, the Minister with the dissenting opinion can **either agree** with the decision (having **expressed his dissent behind closed doors of cabinet meeting) or resign.** It is the duty of every minister to stand by cabinet decisions and support them both within and outside the Parliament. **If any minister disagrees with a cabinet decision and is not prepared to defend it, then he/she must resign.**

Statement II is correct: Article 75 also contains the principle of individual responsibility. It states that the ministers hold office during the pleasure of the President.

Statement II does not explain Statement I: The minister should resign in case they do not agree with the decision of cabinet because there is collective responsibility to Lok Sabha. They work as a team and swim and sink together. Thus it is necessary that every minister agrees with the Cabinet decision in the public.

6. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 72 of the Indian Constitution empowers the President to grant pardons, reprieves, respites, or remissions of punishment, and to suspend, remit, or commute sentences in certain cases, specifically for offenses under Union laws or those decided by a court-martial.

Pair 1 is correct. Commutation means substitution of one form of punishment for a lighter form means replacing a harsher punishment with a less severe one. Example: A death sentence may be commuted to life imprisonment.

Pair 2 is correct. Remission means reducing the period of sentence without changing its character. For example, a 5-year rigorous imprisonment could be remitted to 1 year.

Pair 3 is incorrect. Respite means awarding a lesser sentence in place of one originally awarded due to some special fact. This is granted due to special circumstances like the convict's health or pregnancy of women convict.

Pair 4 is incorrect. Reprieve means stay on the execution of sentence for a temporary period to enable the convict to have time to seek pardon/commutation from the President or Governor.

7. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The President of India (Article 52), being the executive head of the Union, plays a key role in **Parliament's financial procedures.** His powers are both procedural and emergency-driven, ensuring constitutional oversight over national finances.

Statement 1 is correct. A Money Bill cannot be introduced in the Lok Sabha **without the recommendation of the President.** Money Bills deal with taxation, borrowing, expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India, etc. The President's role here ensures that such bills are aligned with the government's fiscal policy.

Statement 2 is correct. Under **Article 113(1), no demand for a grant can be made in the Lok Sabha except on the recommendation of the President.** This means the executive (Council of Ministers) initiates all expenditure proposals, and the Parliament cannot originate them independently.

Statement 3 is correct. According to **Article 267(1),** the **President can make advances from the Contingency Fund of India** to meet **unforeseen expenditures** pending authorization by the Parliament. This ensures immediate response to emergencies (e.g., natural disasters) without waiting for legislative approval.

Statement 4 is correct. The **President does constitute a Finance Commission every five years** under **Article 280,** and its mandate is to **review the financial relations between the Union and the States.**

8. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Doctrine of Eminent Domain** is a legal principle that empowers the **state to acquire private property** for **public purposes,** such as roads, dams, or government infrastructure. However, it is **not an absolute power** and must be exercised with fairness and legality.

The Supreme Court has upheld the doctrine of eminent domain as a sovereign power of the state, provided it meets the tests of legality, public purpose, and compensation.

1. **Compulsory Acquisition** - The owner's consent is **not necessary.** But acquisition must be **lawful** and in **public interest.**
2. **Public Purpose** - The property must be taken **only for a legitimate public use** — e.g., highway construction, urban planning.
3. **Compensation** - The state must pay **fair compensation** to the affected property owner. This principle is now **enshrined in Article 300A** (Right to Property as a constitutional right) and the **Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition Act, 2013.**

9. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The President shall hold office for a term of 5 years from the date on which he enters upon his office. Article 54 of the

Constitution of India governs the process of election of the President.

The President is elected by an Electoral College, which consists of the **elected members of both Houses of Parliament** and the **elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of all the States and also of NCT of Delhi and the Union Territory of Puducherry. Thus, options 1 and 5 are correct.**

Option 2 is incorrect. Nominated members of Rajya Sabha do not constitute the electoral college that elects the President of India. Only elected members are included.

Option 3 is incorrect. State legislative councils do not take part in the elections for the President of India. So neither elected nor nominated members are included.

Option 4 is incorrect. In the present set up, **members of the legislative assembly of Jammu & Kashmir** do not participate in the President's election as they are not a part of the electoral college.

As per Article 54 of the Constitution of India- The President shall be elected by the members of an electoral college consisting of—

a) the elected members of both Houses of Parliament; and
b) the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of the States.

Explanation.—In this article and in article 55, "State" includes the National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Union territory of Puducherry.

The same provision does not apply for the elected member of Jammu and Kashmir legislative assembly. A constitutional amendment will be needed which when done then the elected members of the Legislative assembly of Jammu and Kashmir will also became part of the electoral college.

10. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The Governor of an Indian state has certain **discretionary powers under the Constitution (e.g., Article 163).** These include situations such as recommending President's Rule under Article 356, reserving a bill for the President, or deciding on the appointment of a Chief Minister when no party has a clear majority. In contrast, **the President of India** is generally bound to act on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers and has **no constitutional discretionary powers.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Governor is appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal, thus in a way is a nominee of the Central government. **But as held by the Supreme Court in 1979, the office of the governor of a state is not an employment under the Central government.** It is an independent constitutional office and is not under the control of or subordinate to the Central government.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act (1976) explicitly made it **mandatory** for the **President not governor** to act in accordance with the **advice of the Council of Ministers** by amending **Article 74(1).** Before this amendment, the President could theoretically exercise some discretion, but after 1976, the President **must follow the CoM's advice.** However, this change was **not applied to Governors**, meaning **Governors retained their discretionary powers under Article 163.**

11. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Vice-President of India is the second-highest constitutional office in India, next to the President. **Article 63** of the Constitution of India provides for the office of Vice-President of India.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Vice President of India is elected indirectly by an **electoral college consisting of both elected and nominated members of both houses of Parliament**- the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. The election follows the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, and voting is conducted by secret ballot.

Statement 2 is incorrect: While the constitution mandates that if the President's office is vacant, an election must occur within 6 months, there is no such time constraint for the Vice-President's office. As per Article 68, An election to fill a vacancy in the office of Vice-President occurring by reason of his death, resignation or removal, or otherwise shall be held as soon as possible after the occurrence of the vacancy (No specific time period is mentioned).

Statement 3 is incorrect: Article 67 of the Indian Constitution explicitly states that the Vice-President holds office for a **term of five years** from the date on which they enter upon their office.

12. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In the parliamentary system of government in India, the Prime Minister is the real executive authority. S/He is the head of the government, responsible for the day-to-day governance of the country.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 75 of the Constitution of India states that the **Prime Minister shall be appointed by the President,** but it does not specify the procedure for selection and appointment. The **term of the Prime Minister is also not fixed,** and s/he holds office during the pleasure of the President. The Prime Minister continues in office as long as they maintain the confidence of the majority in the Lok Sabha (House of the People).

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Union Council of Ministers are **appointed by the President** based on the recommendations of the Prime Minister. **The PM does not appoint ministers by himself/herself.** Article 75 of the Constitution says, The Prime Minister shall be appointed by the President and the **other Ministers shall be appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: The **oath of office of the Prime Minister is administered by the President of India**, not the Chief Justice of India.

Statement 4 is incorrect: As per Article 53 of the Constitution, the President of India is the supreme commander of the Defense Forces in India, not the Prime Minister.

13. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 74 of the Constitution provides for a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President who shall, in the exercise of his functions, act in accordance with such advice.

Statement 1 is correct: The 91st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003 mandated that the **total number of Ministers,** including the Prime Minister, **in the Council of Ministers cannot exceed 15% of the total strength of the Lok Sabha/ House of People.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: According to Article 75 of the Constitution, the salaries and allowances of Ministers shall be such as Parliament may from time to time by law determine and, until Parliament so determines, shall be as specified in the Second Schedule. Accordingly, the **Parliament enacted the 'Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1952' to determine the salaries and allowances of ministers.**

Statement 3 is correct: In 1971, the Supreme Court ruled that even after the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, the **Council of Ministers does not cease to hold office** as the President cannot exercise executive power without the aid and advice of the Council. Any exercise of executive power without the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers will be held unconstitutional as being violative of Article 74 of the Constitution.

Statement 4 is correct: The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976 and the 44th Amendment Act, 1978 made the advice given by the Council of Ministers binding on the President. The **advice given by the Council of Ministers to the President is confidential and cannot be inquired into in any court.** This provision ensures that the advice given by the Council of Ministers remains confidential and is **not subject to judicial review.**

14. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The President can be removed from office through the process of impeachment before the completion of their term. **Article 61** of the Constitution outlines the procedure for the impeachment of the President.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The President can be removed from office through a process of impeachment **only on the ground of "violation of the Constitution".** The Constitution, however, does not specify what constitutes such a violation.

Statement 2 is correct: As per Article 61, an impeachment resolution must be signed by at least one-fourth of the total members of the House in which it is introduced (either Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha). This is the requirement for the resolution to be introduced in the House.

Statement 3 is correct: If the **resolution for impeachment is approved by a special majority of two-thirds of the total membership** of the house, the resolution is then sent to the other House for further investigation. If **the other House also approves the impeachment resolution by a special two-thirds majority** of the total membership, the President is considered impeached and removed from office.

15. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Cabinet Secretary is the **top-most executive official and senior-most civil servant** in the Government of India. As the head of the Cabinet Secretariat, the Cabinet Secretary plays a crucial role in facilitating smooth coordination among various ministries and ensuring effective governance.

Statement 1 is correct: Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approves the appointment of the Cabinet Secretary.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As a matter of convention, a senior most civil servant is appointed, as a Cabinet Secretary. He/She belongs to the Indian Administrative Services. The incumbent generally has **tenure of 2 to 3 years. Though, there is no fixed tenure so far, the average tenure of the Cabinet Secretary in India has not been more than 3 years. His/Her tenure, however, can be extended.**

Statements 3 and 4 are correct: The Cabinet Secretariat functions directly under the Prime Minister. The **administrative head of the Secretariat** is the Cabinet Secretary who is also the **ex-officio Chairman of the Civil Services Board.**

16. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 67 of the Constitution of India provides for the term of the office of the Vice-President and also the procedure for his removal.

Option a is incorrect. According to Article 67(b) of the Indian Constitution, a resolution for the removal of the Vice-President can be introduced **only if a 14-day prior notice** is given to the Vice-President, not two months.

Option b is incorrect. The Constitution does not provide for any grounds for the removal of the Vice-President of India. The ground of violation of the Constitution applies for the removal of the President of India.

Option c is incorrect. According to Article 67(b), the Vice President can be removed through a resolution passed by the **Rajya Sabha with an effective majority** (majority of all the then members). This resolution must also be agreed to by the **Lok Sabha with a simple majority.**

Option d is correct. Article 92 of the Constitution explicitly bars the Chairman/Vice-President from presiding over proceedings while a resolution for their removal is under consideration. As per this article, the Chairman shall have the right to speak and take part in the proceedings of the Council of States. **However he/she shall not be entitled to vote at all on such resolution or on any other matter during such proceedings.**

17. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Prime Minister is the real executive head of the Union. The Constitution of India vests the executive power of the Union formally in the President. In reality, the President exercises these powers through the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The President has the power to dismiss the Union Council of Ministers if it fails to prove its majority in the Lok Sabha.

The Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha. This provision means that Council of Ministers which loses confidence of the Lok Sabha may be dismissed by the President.

The Prime Minister can advise the President to remove any Minister of the Council of Ministers. The President is bound by the Prime Minister's advice. The Prime Minister decides who will be the ministers in the Council of Ministers. The Prime Minister allocates ranks and portfolios to the ministers.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The President is the supreme commander of the defence forces of India.

Article 53 of Indian Constitution says that "the supreme command of the Defence Forces of the Union shall be vested in the President and the exercise thereof shall be regulated by law." **The President can declare war or conclude peace on the advice of Council of ministers headed by the Prime Minister.**

18. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The bureaucracy or the administrative machinery is part of the Executive organ of the government along with the Prime Minister and the ministers.

Options 1 and 2 are correct: Bureaucracy, also known as permanent executives, includes trained and skilled officers who work as permanent employees of the government. They are assigned the task of **assisting the ministers in formulating policies and implementing these policies.**

- The administrative officers are expected to adhere to the policies adopted by the legislature and cannot act in violation of them. The ministers, on the other hand, are responsible for maintaining political control over the administration.

Option 3 is correct: Bureaucracy in India is involved in the administration of justice.

For instance, the Jan Vishwas Act amends the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986, and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981, to **substitute imprisonment with penalties,** up to ₹15 lakh. Penalties can be imposed by **designated bureaucrats for specific offences.**

19. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The President is the head of the State of India and supervises the overall functioning of all the political institutions in the country so that they operate in harmony to achieve the objectives of the State. In India, all major appointments are made in the name of the President.

Option 1 is correct: The Constitution of India, **under Article 124,** mandates that **every Judge of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the President** by warrant under his hand and seal. The oath or affirmation is also administered by the President, or some person appointed by him.

Option 2 is correct: Every High Court consists of a Chief Justice and such other Judges as the President may from time to time deem it necessary to appoint. Under Article 217 of the Constitution of India, **the Chief Justice of the High Court is appointed by the President,** by warrant under his hand and seal, in consultation with the CJI and the Governor of the concerned state. **Other judges of the High Court are appointed by the President** in consultation with the CJI, the Chief Justice of the High Court and the Governor of the State.

Option 3 is incorrect: The **State Election Commissioners (SECs) are appointed by the Governor of a State,** who also determines their conditions of service and tenure of office. However, the SEC can be removed only by the President and only in a manner and on the grounds as a Judge of a High Court.

Option 4 is correct: The President is responsible for the appointments of Ambassadors/High Commissioners based on the recommendations of the Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister.

20. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Certain high-level strategic, security, and scientific bodies in India function under the direct leadership of the Prime Minister. This ensures effective coordination between the executive and national security apparatus.

Option 1 is incorrect. The National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) is a high-level committee constituted to deal with major crises and disaster management. It is headed by the Cabinet Secretary, not the Prime Minister. It includes Secretaries of key ministries like Home, Defence, and Health, and is activated during national calamities or emergencies.

Option 2 is incorrect. The Atomic Energy Commission of India (AEC), responsible for formulating policies related to atomic energy, is headed by the Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), who serves as the ex-officio chairman, and is under the direct charge of the Prime Minister.

Option 3 is correct. The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) is one of the most important Cabinet Committees, responsible for national security, defence policy, and matters of strategic importance. It is chaired by the Prime Minister and includes key ministers like Home, Defence, External Affairs, and Finance.

Option 4 is correct. The National Security Council is the apex body for political, economic, energy, and strategic security issues. It is chaired by the Prime Minister and includes the NSA, Cabinet Ministers, and other senior officials. It was set up by the Vajpayee government in 1998 following the nuclear tests by India & Pakistan.

21. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option 1 is correct: The President **enjoys discretion with respect to veto power by which he can withhold or refuse to give assent to Bills (other than Money Bill)** passed by the

Parliament. Every bill passed by the Parliament goes to the President for his assent before it becomes a law. The President can send the bill back to the Parliament asking it to reconsider the bill. This 'veto' power is limited because, if the Parliament passes the same bill again and sends it back to the President, then, the President has to give assent to that bill. However, there is **no mention in the Constitution about the time limit within which the President must send the bill back for reconsideration.** This means that the President can just keep the bill pending with him without any time limit. This gives the President an informal power to use the veto in a very effective manner. This is sometimes referred to as **'pocket veto'.**

Option 2 is correct: The **President enjoys discretion in the appointment of the Prime Minister when no leader has a clear majority in the Lok Sabha** or after attempts to forge alliances, two or three leaders are claiming that they have the support of the majority in the house. In such a situation, the President has to use his own discretion in judging who really may have the support of the majority or who can actually form and run the government.

Option 3 is incorrect: The President can only promulgate an ordinance when he is satisfied that circumstances exist that require immediate action. The ordinance-making power is coextensive with the legislative powers of the Parliament. The **President can also withdraw an ordinance at any time, but this power is not discretionary** and **must be exercised on the advice of the Council of Ministers.**

Important Tips

Case where the President can exercise his/her discretion:

- President can send back the advice given by the Council of Ministers and ask the Council to reconsider the decision. In doing this, the President acts on his (or her) own discretion.
- Although, the Council can still send back the same advice and the President would then be bound by that advice, such a request by the President to reconsider the decision, would naturally carry a lot of weight.

22. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: In India, the power of pardon is vested in the President **under Article 72 of the Constitution.** However, **there is no explicit provision in the Constitution or any law that guarantees the right to an oral hearing before the President in mercy petitions.** The process of considering mercy petitions typically involves the President's office reviewing the documents and representations submitted by the petitioner, legal opinions, and other relevant materials. **While the petitioner may make written submissions, there is no inherent right to an oral hearing.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: There's no legal or constitutional requirement for the President to provide explanations for their decision on pardon petitions. The President is not obligated to provide reasons for granting or rejecting a petition. This lack of transparency is a subject of ongoing debate.

Statement 3 is correct: The President's pardoning power **isn't absolute.** In landmark cases like **Epuru Sudhakar & Anr vs Govt. Of Andhra Pradesh. & Ors, and Maru Ram v. Union of India case, the Supreme Court established that the President's decisions can be challenged in court and is subject to judicial review under certain conditions such as;**

- **Lack of due process:** If the President grants a pardon without properly considering the case or relevant materials.
- **Mala fide:** If there's evidence the decision was made in bad faith or for improper reasons.
- **Arbitrary or irrational:** If the decision has no reasonable basis or is completely illogical.

23. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Parliament frames the rules only with regards to recruitment of civil servants belonging to the All-India services and the Central Services. The recruitment of civil servants belonging to the third category - i.e., State Services is regulated by the laws and rules framed by the Legislative Assembly of the state concerned.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Constitution empowers the Parliament or the State Legislature to impose "reasonable restrictions" on the Fundamental Rights of civil servants in the interest of the integrity, efficiency, and impartiality of the civil servants. For example, the Central Services (Conduct) Rules put restrictions on the Right to Freedom of speech and Expression of civil servants as they are barred from revealing classified matters to the public or writing or speaking against the policies of the government etc.

24. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 311 places two restrictions on the 'Doctrine of Pleasure'. In other words, it provides two safeguards to civil servants against any arbitrary dismissal from their posts:

1. A civil servant cannot be dismissed or removed by an authority subordinate to that by which he was appointed.
2. A civil servant cannot be dismissed or removed or reduced in rank except after an inquiry in which he has been informed of the charges against him and given a reasonable opportunity of being heard in respect of those charges.

However, the second safeguard (holding inquiry) is not available in the following three cases:

Option 1 is correct: Where a civil servant is dismissed or removed or reduced in rank on the ground of conduct which has led to his conviction on a criminal charge; or

Option 2 is correct: Where the authority empowered to dismiss or remove a civil servant or to reduce him in rank is satisfied that for some reason (to be recorded in writing), it is not reasonably practicable to hold such inquiry; or

Option 3 is correct: Where the President or the Governor is satisfied that in the interest of the security of the state, it is not expedient to hold such inquiry.

25. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Cabinet Committees are considered **extra-constitutional bodies** because they are **not specifically mentioned in the Constitution** of India. They are created under the **Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961,** which are derived from **Article 77** of the Constitution. This Article empowers the **President** to make rules for the convenient transaction of the business of the Government of India.

Statement 2 is incorrect: While cabinet ministers are core members of Cabinet committees, these committees do not comprise of only cabinet ministers. They sometimes include minister of state as special invitees, when the committee's portfolio overlaps with the duties and responsibilities of minister of state.

Statement 3 is incorrect: As per Article 76 (1) of the Indian Constitution the President shall appoint a person who is qualified to be appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court to be Attorney-General for India.

Important Tips

Prime Minister of India determines membership of the cabinet committees to focus on specific policy areas and streamline the decision making process.

26. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The President of India appoints the Prime Minister under Article 75 of the Constitution. While the Constitution does **not explicitly mention criteria** for selecting the Prime Minister, constitutional **conventions and Supreme Court rulings** guide the process. The President typically appoints the **leader of the majority party in the Lok Sabha** as the Prime Minister. However, when **no party holds a clear majority,** the President exercises **discretion** in selecting the Prime Minister. In such scenarios, the President usually appoints the **leader of the largest party or coalition in the Lok Sabha** and requires them to prove their majority by securing a vote of confidence in the House.

Option d is correct. The President appoints the **leader of the largest party or coalition that has the support of majority in the Lok Sabha.** This is the established convention.

27. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. The value of each **MLA's vote** varies from state to state, from a **high of 208 in Uttar Pradesh** to a low of 7 in Sikkim. Whereas the **value of each MP's vote is 700.** Thus the **value of an MP's vote is much higher than that of an MLA's vote.**

Statement 2 is incorrect. Each MP, whether from the Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha, has the **same vote value** since the total vote value of MPs is distributed evenly among all elected MPs of both houses. Since the **Lok Sabha has more MPs (543) than the Rajya Sabha (233),** the total value of votes of **Lok Sabha MPs will be higher than the total value of votes of Rajya Sabha MPs.**

Statement 3 is correct. The system of **proportional representation** ensures that the **total value of the votes of all MLAs is approximately equal to the total value of the votes of all MPs.** This ensures a balance between the representation of states (through MLAs) and the Union (through MPs) in the Presidential election.

28. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

A semi-presidential system is republican system of governance that combines **elements of presidential democracy with parliamentary democracy.**

Statement 1 is correct. Semi presidentialism is characterized by one fundamental principle: a **balance of power between** three political bodies; namely the **President,** the government headed by a **Prime Minister and Parliament.** The main challenge of semi-presidentialism is to achieve a balance between these three bodies. Both the constitutional framework and the political context must ensure that these three bodies interact mutually on the basis of a dynamic relationship.

Statement 2 is correct. In a semi-presidential system, both the **President and the Prime Minister wield executive powers.** For example, in France, a well-known example of semi presidential democracy, the president leads foreign policy and the prime minister leads domestic policy. The degree of executive authority shared between the President and the Prime Minister varies depending on the specific country's constitution and political dynamics.

29. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 66 of the Constitution of India provides that the Vice-President **shall be elected by the members of both Houses of Parliament. He is elected** in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the voting at such election shall be by secret ballot.

The President is elected by members of electoral college consisting of:

- the elected members of both the Houses of Parliament;
- the elected members of the legislative assemblies of the states; and
- the elected members of the legislative assemblies of the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry

Hence Only options 1 and 2 are correct. As the elected members of both the Houses of Parliament are common to both the electoral college of President and Vice President.

Options 3, 4 and 5 are incorrect. As the Nominated Members of Rajya Sabha are part of electoral college of Vice President but not President.

Elected Members of State Legislative assemblies are part of electoral college of President of India but not part of electoral college of Vice President of India

Members of the State Legislative Council whether elected or nominated do not vote in both Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections.

30. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 311 of the Constitution of India deals with the dismissal, removal or reduction in rank of civil servants of the Centre and the States.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Article 311(1) of the Constitution says that 'no civil servant of the Union or a State shall be dismissed or removed **by an authority subordinate to that by which he was appointed.**' So, a civil servant can be dismissed or removed by an authority superior or equal to that by which he/she was appointed.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Article 311(2) of the Constitution says that **a civil servant cannot be dismissed or removed or reduced in rank except after an inquiry** in which he has been informed of the charges against him.

But **this safeguard of holding inquiry is not always available.** It is not available in the following circumstances:

- When a civil servant is dismissed or removed on the ground of conduct which has led to his conviction on a criminal charge;
- When the authority empowered to dismiss or remove a civil servant is satisfied that for some reason (to be recorded in writing), it is not reasonably practicable to hold such inquiry;
- When the president or the governor is satisfied that in the interest of the security of the state, it is not expedient to hold such inquiry.

31. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The all-India services are services common to the Centre and the States in India. The officers chosen for these services serve in the administration of both the Centre and the States.

Statement 1 is correct. Article 312 of the Constitution confers power on Parliament to regulate recruitment and conditions of service of persons appointed to All India Services.

Subsequently, Parliament passed the **All-India Services Act, 1951, empowering the Union Government in consultation with the State Governments to make rules for the regulation of recruitment and conditions of service of persons appointed to these All-India Services.**

Statement 2 is incorrect. No member of the Service shall except, with the previous sanction of the Government—

(a) engage directly or indirectly in any trade or business,

(b) negotiated for or undertake, any other employment,

(c) hold an elective office, or canvass for a candidate or candidates for an elective office, in any body, whether incorporated or not,

(d) canvass in support of any business of insurance agency, commission agency etc. owned or managed by any member of his family, etc.

32. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The **President derives the ordinance-making power from Article 123** of the Indian Constitution. As per this article, if at any time, **except when both Houses of Parliament are in session,** the President is satisfied that **circumstances exist which require immediate action,** he/she may promulgate ordinances.

This power allows the President to take quick legislative action when Parliament cannot meet, based on his assessment of the necessity of the situation.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The President can promulgate an ordinance when either or both Houses of Parliament are not in session. It is not required for both Houses to be not in session; even if one House is not in session, an ordinance can still be issued. Also, an ordinance promulgated by the President when both the Houses are in session is void. Thus, the power of the President to promulgate ordinances is not a parallel power of legislation to Parliament.

Statement 3 is incorrect: An **ordinance must be approved by Parliament within six weeks of its reassembly, not six months.** If Parliament does not approve the ordinance within this period, or before the expiration of that period if resolutions disapproving ordinance are passed by both Houses, the ordinance **ceases to operate.** This ensures that ordinances are temporary measures that require parliamentary scrutiny and approval.

Important Tips

Other key facts regarding Ordinance making power of the President:

- The power is exercised on the advice of the Council of Ministers headed by the Prime Minister, and it is not at the President's discretion.
- The President can only issue ordinances on matters where Parliament has the authority to legislate, meaning this power is coextensive with the legislative powers of the Parliament except the duration.
- The exercise of this power can be challenged in court, as highlighted by the Supreme Court in cases like R.C Cooper v. Union of India (1970).
- An ordinance cannot amend the Constitution and is subject to the same limitations as an Act of Parliament.
- Ordinances may have retrospective effects and can modify or repeal existing laws.

33. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Cabinet Secretariat, headed by the Cabinet Secretary,** is **responsible for the administration of the Government of India.** It ensures smooth transaction of business across Ministries and Departments, provides secretarial assistance to the Cabinet and also assists in decision-making in Government by ensuring Inter-Ministerial coordination.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **Cabinet Secretariat functions directly under the Prime Minister of India, not the President.**

While the President of India is the ceremonial head of state, the Prime Minister is the head of the government, and the Cabinet Secretariat operates under the Prime Minister's authority to assist in coordinating the work of the Cabinet.

Statement 2 is correct: The **Cabinet Secretariat** ensures that the **President, Vice President, and Ministers are kept informed about the major activities of all Ministries and Departments by providing a monthly summary.** This summary includes key decisions, actions, and developments regarding all ministries and departments.

34. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement I is correct: The **Indian Constitution does not provide for the system of legal responsibility of a minister.** The Constitution does not mandate that orders from the President for public acts be countersigned by a minister. Moreover, the courts cannot question the nature of advice given by ministers to the President. In contrast, the system **of ministerial responsibility is well-established in Britain.**

Statement II is incorrect: The **principle of "the king can do no wrong" comes from British law** and means that the monarch cannot be sued or prosecuted. In Britain, this ensures that ministers countersign orders from the King and are held responsible if those orders violate the law. However, **this principle is not adopted in India.**

Thus, **Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.**

35. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

As per **Article 312** of the Indian Constitution, **Parliament can create** one or more **All-India Services**, including an **All-India Judicial Service**, only when the **Rajya Sabha passes a resolution** declaring that it is in the **national interest** to do so. This resolution must be supported by a **special majority**, which requires **not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting.**

Currently, India has three All-India Services: **Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Police Service (IPS)**, and the **Indian Forest Service (IFS)**. The IFS was constituted as an All-India Service in **1966.**

36. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

Option 1 is correct: Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR);

1. **Type**: Autonomous body, established in 1942
2. **Headquarters**: New Delhi
3. **Purpose**: CSIR undertakes scientific and industrial research across various disciplines and sectors.
4. CSIR is one of the largest publicly funded research and development (R&D) organizations globally. It operates through a network of national laboratories, outreach centers, and innovation complexes
5. **Chairperson**: The **Prime Minister of India is the ex-officio chairperson**

Option 2 is incorrect: National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)

1. **Type: Statutory** body
2. **Established Under**: NTCA was established in December 2005 following the recommendation of the **Tiger Task Force, under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.**
3. **Ministry:** NTCA operates under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, which is responsible for the conservation and management of India's forests and wildlife.
4. **Purpose**: NTCA ensures the conservation of tigers and their habitats in India. It formulates policies, provides funding, and coordinates conservation efforts across the country.
5. **Chairperson:** The **Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change**

Option 3 is correct: Central Hindi Committee (Kendriya Hindi Samiti)

1. **Falls under:** Department of Official language, **Ministry of Home Affairs**
2. **Purpose:** The Central Hindi Committee is responsible for the development and promotion of the Hindi language.
3. **Chairperson: The Prime Minister of India.**

37. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Fundamental Right to Property** under Part III has been **abolished** by the 44th Amendment Act of 1978 and placed as legal right under Article 300A. However, the Part III still carries **two provisions** which provide for the **guaranteed right to compensation** in case of acquisition or requisition of the private property by the state under **Article 30 (1A) and Article 31A.**

Statement 1 is correct. Article 30 of the Constitution protect the rights of minorities to administer their educational institutions. Under **Article 30 (1A)** government is constitutionally **obligated to pay compensation** for acquiring **land of minority educational institution. This provision was added by the 44th Amendment Act (1978).**

Statement 2 is correct. Article 31A ensures **compensation** at market value when the state acquires land held for **personal cultivation within the statutory ceiling limit. This provision was added by the 17th Amendment Act (1964).**

Statement 3 is incorrect. Land for religious purposes is not covered under the Constitution of India for mandatory compensation by the government.

38. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Before the 91st Amendment Act (2003), the size of the Council of Ministers was determined according to exigencies of time and requirements of the situation. But this led to very large size of the Council of Ministers.

Statement I is incorrect. As per Article 75(1A) of the Constitution the total number of ministers, including the

Prime Minister, shall not exceed 15% of the **total strength of the Lok Sabha** (not the total members of Parliament, which includes the Rajya Sabha). Similarly, in the states, the number of ministers, including the Chief Minister, cannot exceed 15% of the total strength of the State Legislative Assembly as per Article 164(1A).

Statement II is correct. The 91st Amendment Act, 2003 put restriction on the size of the Council of Ministers. The total number of ministers in the Union government or in a state government cannot exceed 15% of the strength of the Lok Sabha or State Legislative Assembly, respectively.

39. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) is the executive body tasked with providing secretarial assistance to the Prime Minister of India. Established in 1947, it was originally known as the Prime Minister's Secretariat before being renamed the PMO in 1977 during the Morarji Desai administration.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) is headed by the Prime Minister politically and by the Principal Secretary administratively. As Principal Secretary is appointed by the government of the day, the tenure of the Principal Secretary is not fixed.

Statement 2 is correct: PMO is an extra-constitutional body that has no mention in the Indian Constitution. However, it was given the status of a department under the Government of India Allocation of Business Rules, 1961 which defines the various functions of PMO.

40. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The responsibility of conducting the decadal census rests with the Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

41. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 52 of the Constitution of India provides for a President who shall be the Head of the Union Executive. The Presidential election is conducted using the system of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote wherein the voting is done by secret ballot.

Statement 1 is correct: The election of President V.V. Giri, in 1969, is the only instance when a candidate did not secure the quota in the first round of counting. The second preference votes were then evaluated and Mr. Giri secured 4,20,077 of the 8,36,337 votes and was declared the President.

Statement 2 is correct: India's sixth President, Mr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy was the only President to be elected unopposed in 1977. The nomination papers of 36 of the 37 candidates were rejected during scrutiny by the Returning Officer and Mr. Reddy was the only candidate standing.

42. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Deputy Prime Minister in India is a position that has been intermittently occupied since its inception. The office is not explicitly mentioned in the Indian Constitution, but it is a member of the Union Council of Ministers.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Deputy Prime Minister is ranked fifth in the order of precedence in India.

Rank	Offices
1.	President
2.	Vice-President
3.	Prime Minister
4.	Governors of States within their respective States
5.	Former Presidents
5A.	Deputy Prime Minister
6.	Chief Justice of India Speaker of Lok Sabha
7.	Former Prime Ministers Cabinet Minister of the Union Chief Ministers of States within their respective States Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission Leaders of Opposition in Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha
7A.	Holders of Bharat ratna decoration

Important Tips

The Table of Precedence is a formal ranking system that establishes the order of precedence for officials in the Union and State Governments of India. Its primary purpose is to dictate the hierarchy during state and ceremonial occasions, ensuring that officials are recognized and seated according to their rank.

43. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Statement I is correct: Lord Morley described Prime Minister as 'primus inter pares' (first among equals) in relation to the Central council of ministers. Several other political philosophers agree with the description.

Statement II is correct: The Prime Minister in India stands at the head of the council of ministers, the other ministers cannot function when the Prime Minister resigns or dies. In other words, the resignation or death of an incumbent Prime Minister automatically dissolves the council of ministers and thereby generates a vacuum. Also, it is one of the reasons it is considered as first among the equals.

Statement III is incorrect: Prime Minister recommends persons who can be appointed as ministers by the President. The President can appoint only those persons as ministers who are recommended by the Prime Minister. The President of India, as advised by the Prime Minister, directs the allocation/ reshuffling of portfolios among the members of the Union Council of Ministers

44. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

A Civil Services Board (CSB) is responsible for managing the transfers, postings, promotions, inquiries, rewards, punishments, and disciplinary matters of civil servants in India. In 2013, the Supreme Court directed the Centre and states to establish such boards to shield the bureaucracy from political interference and prevent arbitrary transfers by political leaders.

The Cabinet Secretary, who heads the Cabinet Secretariat responsible for government administration, serves as the ex-officio Chairman of the Civil Services Board.

Important Tips

Under the Government of India (Transaction of Business) Rules, 1961 and the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, the Cabinet Secretariat is responsible for ensuring the smooth transaction of business across various ministries and departments of the government. The Secretariat provides secretarial support to the Cabinet and its committees and plays a crucial role in facilitating decision-making by promoting inter-ministerial coordination.

45. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement I is incorrect. Article 74 (1) of the Constitution of India says that there shall be a Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise the President who shall exercise his functions, in accordance with such advice. It further says that the President may require the Council of Ministers to reconsider such advice, but the President shall act in accordance with the advice tendered after such reconsideration.

Statement II is correct. The 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976 made the advice of the Council of Ministers binding on the President of India. It made the President bound by the advice of the council of ministers

However, the 44th Amendment Act of 1978 allowed the President to ask the Council of Ministers to reconsider its advice. But, he 'shall' act in accordance with the advice tendered after such reconsideration.

46. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Constitutional prerogative are the constitutional powers or rights or responsibilities of the President as mentioned in the constitution.

Under Article 111 the President can return bill except money bill for the reconsideration of the parliament. The President cannot return Appropriation Bill (money bill) for the reconsideration of the Parliament. Under Article 85 he can summon both the houses and may dissolve the Lok Sabha.

47. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

In Indian context, the executive branch can be divided into two categories- the political executive and the permanent executive. The term "political executives" generally refers to elected officials and government leaders who hold executive positions and are responsible for the administration and management of government affairs. Those responsible for day-to-day functions (eg. Civil servants) are called permanent executives.

Option 1 is correct: The President is the head of the executive branch and is responsible for appointing the Prime Minister and other ministers.

Option 2 is correct: Generally, the leader of the majority party or leader of coalition of parties, in a general election to Lok Sabha is appointed as the Prime Minister. He is responsible for formulating and implementing government policies.

Option 3 is incorrect: The Chief Justice of India is not a political executive. Instead, he is **the head of the judiciary** and plays a crucial role in the judicial branch, interpreting and upholding the law.

Option 4 is incorrect: Civil servants are **not political executives. They are career professionals within the civil service** who provide continuity in government operations and are responsible for implementing government policies and decisions, regardless of changes in political leadership.

Option 5 is incorrect: The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) is not a political executive. They are a constitutional authority responsible for auditing government finances and ensuring financial accountability. **The CAG is an independent and non-political office.**

48. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The nature of executives varies from country to country. Broadly, it can be classified as **Parliamentary system, Presidential system and the Semi-Presidential system.**

Statement 1 is correct: In a Presidential system, the President holds both the ceremonial role of Head of State and the executive role of Head of Government. For example, United States has a Presidential form of government.

Statement 2 is correct: In a Parliamentary system, the executive (the Prime Minister and the Cabinet) is accountable to the legislature (the Parliament or Congress). The legislature can hold votes of **no confidence or censure the executive,** ensuring accountability. For example, India and the United Kingdom operate under a Parliamentary system.

Statement 3 is incorrect: In a Parliamentary system, there can be **either an elected Head of the State or a Monarch.** For example, India has an elected Head of the State, known as the President. On the other hand, the United Kingdom and Canada have a Monarch. Hence, the statement given is incorrect.

Statement 4 is incorrect: It is incorrect to state that in a Presidential system, only the President can introduce a bill. For instance, **in the United States, while any member of congress can draft a bill, its formal introduction in the legislature is the exclusive prerogative of members of Congress.** Also, in this context, it should be noted that the President is not a member of the Congress. Certain significant

bills, like the annual federal budget, are traditionally introduced upon the President's request (but are not introduced by him).

49. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement a is correct: Article 361 provides protection to the President and Governors. The President, or the Governor shall not be answerable to any court for the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of his office or for any act done or purporting to be done by him in the exercise and performance of those powers and duties.

Statement b is correct: Writ of Mandamus issued by the court to a public official asking him to perform his official duties that he has failed or refused to perform. However, the writ of mandamus cannot be issued against the President of India or the state governors.

Statement c is correct: According to Article 361, the Governor is immune from criminal proceedings only. A civil proceedings can be instituted against him during his term of office in respect of his personal acts but only after giving two months' notice.

Statement d is incorrect: Article 74(2) barred courts from inquiring into the advice given by the Council of Ministers to the President. Similarly, Article 163 mentions that advice was tendered by Ministers to the Governor shall not be inquired into in any court.

50. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 56 provides the grounds for removal of the President. It states that the President can be removed from his office for the violation of the Constitution by an impeachment procedure as given in Article 61.

Article 61 deals with the **impeachment procedure** of the President. The President can be removed from office only by Parliament by following the procedure for impeachment. This procedure requires a **special majority of both the Houses of Parliament. The Constitution mentions only one ground for the impeachment of the President which is a violation of the Constitution**. Hence, option a is the correct answer.

51. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The 'Kitchen Cabinet' also called as 'Inner Cabinet' is the is the highest informal decision-making body consisting of the Prime Minister as its head and some 15 to 20 most important ministers. It may be composed of not only cabinet ministers but also outsiders like friends and family members of the prime minister. It advises the prime minister on important political and administrative issues and assists him in making crucial decisions.

52. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The President of India has a few discretionary powers that s/he can exercise under specific circumstances. These discretionary powers are typically used in exceptional situations where the President must make decisions, independently of council of ministers.

Statement 1 is correct. Under article 78 of the Constitution of India, the President has the right/power to seek information relating to the administration of the affairs of the Union. This is the discretionary power of the President.

Statement 2 is correct. The **President has the discretion to dismiss the council of ministers,** if it is unable to prove the confidence of the Lok Sabha. If the Council of Ministers loses its majority and no viable government can be formed, the Lok Sabha can be dissolved.

Statement 3 is correct. One other instance of discretionary power is when the President appoints the Prime minister when no party has a clear majority in Parliament. When no political party or coalition of parties enjoy the majority in Lok Sabha, then the President has discretion in inviting the leader of that party or coalition of parties who in his opinion is able to form a stable government.

Statement 4 is correct. The President has discretionary power to delay the passage of ordinary bill by not giving approval to it (Pocket veto), indefinitely.

53. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Lord Morley described Prime Minister as 'primus inter pares' (first among equals) for the following reasons:

Statement 1 is correct: Prime Minister recommends persons who can be appointed as ministers by the president. The President can appoint only those persons as ministers who are recommended by the Prime Minister. Prime Minister can ask a minister to resign or advise the President to dismiss him/her in case of difference of opinion.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It is the duty of the Prime Minister (not Council of Ministers) to communicate to the President all decisions relating to the administration of the affairs of the Union and proposals for legislation.

Statement 3 is correct: Since the Prime Minister stands at the head of the council of ministers, the other ministers cannot function when the Prime Minister resigns or dies. In other words, the resignation or death of an incumbent Prime Minister automatically dissolves the council of ministers and thereby generates a vacuum.

54. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Prime Minister of India is the **chief executive of the Indian government and the head of the Council of Ministers.** The **Prime Minister is appointed by the President of India** and is usually the leader of the political party or coalition that has the majority in the Lok Sabha, the lower house of India's Parliament.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Prime Minister is the leader of the majority party or **coalition in the Lok Sabha (the lower house of Parliament), not the Rajya Sabha.** The Rajya Sabha is the upper house, and its members are not directly elected

by the people but are elected by the state legislatures. The majority in the Lok Sabha is the key factor in determining the Prime Minister.

Statement 2 is correct. The President of India appoints ministers in the Union Council of ministers and allocates **the portfolios to the Union council of ministers as advised by the Prime Minister.** The Prime Minister decides which minister holds which portfolio, and this is subject to change during the term as needed.

55. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

A semi-presidential system is a type of democratic government that has both a president and a prime minister, who share the executive power. The president is elected by the people and has some constitutional authority, while the prime minister and the cabinet are appointed by the president or the parliament and are accountable to the legislature.

Statement 1 is incorrect: In a semi-presidential system, the President is the head of the state, but not the head of the government. The **head of the government is the Prime Minister**, who shares the executive power with the President.

Statement 2 is correct: In the Semi-Presidential system, the President is directly elected by the citizens, while the Prime minister is appointed by the President or approved by the legislature. E.g., Russia.

56. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement-I is correct: As per Indian Constitution, **all the laws made in the Parliament require the assent of the President before they come into force.** The President can either give or withhold his assent to a bill or return it for reconsideration (depending on the type of bill).

Statement-II is correct, and it is the correct explanation for Statement I. The Indian Parliament comprises the President and the two Houses - Rajya Sabha (Council of States) and Lok Sabha (House of the People). The reason why the President must assent to the bills passed by the Parliament is because she/he is part **of the Parliament.** The assent of the President is a constitutional requirement that ensures that the laws made by the Parliament are in accordance with the Constitution and the will of the people.

57. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Before entering upon his office, the President must make and subscribe to an oath or affirmation. In his oath, the President swears:

- to faithfully execute the office.
- to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and the law. **Hence, option 1 is correct.**
- to devote himself to the service and well-being of the people of India.

This oath is not taken by the Chief Justice of India, Comptroller and Auditor-General of India and the Prime Minister of India. Hence, **options 2, 3 and 4 are incorrect.**

58. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The President is the head of the Indian State. He is the first citizen of India and acts as the symbol of unity, integrity and solidarity of the nation.

Statement 1 is correct: A candidate standing for the President's office must get more than 50% of the valid votes to win the election. This is also known as the absolute majority or quota. The valid votes are the total number of votes cast minus the invalid or blank votes.

Statement 2 is incorrect: When the vacancy is going to be caused by the expiration of the term of the sitting President, an election to fill the vacancy must be held before the expiration of the term. **In case of any delay in conducting the election of a new President for any reason, the outgoing President continues to hold office until his successor assumes charge (and not the Vice President).** This is provided by the Constitution to prevent an 'interregnum'.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The voting for Presidential election is done through **secret ballot system to ensure secrecy and impartiality**. The electors are not allowed to disclose their preference to anyone.

59. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In India, there is no provision in the Constitution for the system of legal responsibility of a minister. It is **not required that an order of the President for a public act should be countersigned by a minister.** Moreover, the courts are barred from enquiring into the nature of advice rendered by the ministers to the president.

In Britain, on the other hand, every order of the King for any public act is countersigned by a minister. If the order is in violation of any law, the **minister would be held responsible and would be liable in court.** The legally accepted phrase in Britain is, "The king can do no wrong." Hence, he cannot be sued in any court.

60. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Cabinet Committees are **extra-constitutional bodies** that are formed by the **Prime Minister of India** to assist the Cabinet in its decision-making process.

Statement 1 is incorrect- Cabinet Committees have a **non-constitutional origin**, meaning they are **not explicitly specified in the Constitution**. Their establishment is outlined in the **Rules of Business.**

Statement 2 is incorrect- Cabinet committees typically comprise **only Cabinet Ministers,** with membership ranging from **three to eight members.** However, **non-cabinet Ministers** can also become its members.

Important Tips

There are currently eight cabinet committees in India:

- Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)
- Cabinet Committee on Accommodation (CCA)
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)
- Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs (CCPA)
- Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA)
- Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS)
- Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth (CCIG)
- Cabinet Committee on Employment and Skill Development (CCESD)

61. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

In India's political system, the Prime Minister, appointed by the President, is both the head of government and the de facto head of state. The Prime Minister, usually the leader of the majority party or coalition in the Lok Sabha, oversees government administration and acts as the chief advocate for government policies.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The post of Prime Minister in India is not subject to direct election by the people. Instead, the President appoints the Prime Minister based on specific conditions. The leader of the majority party or coalition in the Lok Sabha, or the individual most likely to secure majority support, is typically chosen for the position. This process ensures that the Prime Minister has the backing of the parliamentary majority.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The tenure of the office of Prime Minister is not fixed, and he holds office during the pleasure of the President. However, this doesn't imply the President can remove the Prime Minister arbitrarily. As long as the Prime Minister maintains majority support in the Lok Sabha, dismissal by the President is not possible. However, if they lose the Lok Sabha's confidence, resignation is necessary, or the President can dismiss him/her.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The President, not the Speaker, administers the oaths of office and secrecy to the Prime Minister before they assume their duties. The Prime Minister takes an oath to uphold the Constitution, safeguard India's sovereignty, and fulfill their duties impartially in accordance with the Constitution and the law.

62. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 58 of the Indian Constitution provides for the Qualifications for election as President. The qualification necessary is explained below:

Option 1 is incorrect- A person must be a citizen of India and should be at least 35 years of age in order to be a President of India.

Option 2 is correct- In order to be a President of India, a person must be eligible to be elected as a member of the Lok Sabha.

Option 3 is correct- In order to be a President of India, a person must not hold any office of profit under the Government of India or the Government of any State or under any local or other authority subject to the control of any of the said Governments.

Option 4 is incorrect- In order to be a President of India, a person must be qualified to be elected as a member of the Lok Sabha (not Rajya Sabha).

On the other hand, a person in order to be a Vice-President of India, must be qualified to be elected as a member of the Rajya Sabha.

63. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Article 123 of the Constitution empowers the President to promulgate ordinances during the recess of Parliament. He can promulgate an ordinance only when both the Houses of Parliament are not in session or when either of the two Houses of Parliament is not in session. An ordinance can also be issued when only one House is in session because a law needs to be passed by both the Houses and not by one House alone. An ordinance made when both the Houses are in session is void.

Statement 2 is correct. In the Cooper case, (1970), the Supreme Court held that the President's satisfaction can be questioned in a court on the grounds of being malafide.

Statement 3 is correct. In D.C. Wadhwa case (1987) the SC ruled that successive repromulgation of ordinances with the same text without any attempt to get the bills passed by the assembly would amount to violation of the Constitution and the ordinance so repromulgated is liable to be struck down. It held that the exceptional power of law-making through ordinance cannot be used as a substitute for the legislative power of the state legislature.

Statement 4 is incorrect. An ordinance like any other legislation, can be retrospective, and may modify or repeal any act of Parliament. **However, it cannot be issued to amend the Constitution.**

64. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Suspensive Veto means the power of the President to return a bill for reconsideration of the Parliament.

Statement 1 is correct: When the bill is sent back to the parliament by the President and if the same is passed again by Parliament, with or without changes, and presented again to the President, the President is required to grant his assent to the bill. Hence is such case the President cannot use the suspensive veto.

Statement 2 is correct: In the case of money bills, the President does not have a suspensive veto. The President may either grant or withhold his approval to a money measure, but he may not return it to Parliament for reconsideration.

Statement 3 is correct: The President does have any power to use suspensive veto in case of "the constitutional amendment bills".

Statement 4 is incorrect: The President enjoys the suspensive veto with respect to the state if the bill is passed again by the state legislature with or without amendments and presented again to the President for his assent, the President is not bound to give his assent to the bill. This means that the state legislature cannot override the suspensive veto power of the President.

65. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 360 grants the President the authority to declare a Financial Emergency when he or she determines that a situation has emerged, posing a threat to the financial stability or credit of India or any of its regions.

Statement 1 is correct: Once both Houses of Parliament approve it, the **Financial Emergency continues indefinitely until it is revoked.** This implies that there is no specified maximum period set for its operation. A Financial Emergency's continuation **doesn't require repeated parliamentary approval.** A resolution for its proclamation can pass in either House of Parliament with a simple majority. Additionally, the President can revoke a Financial Emergency at any time without needing parliamentary approval through a subsequent proclamation.

Statement 2 is incorrect: In India's history since independence, a Financial Emergency has never been proclaimed.

66. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I

The **Prime Minister is the head of the council of ministers, acts as a link between the Council of Ministers on the one hand and the President and parliament on the other hand.** It is this role of the Prime Minister which led Pt. Nehru to describe him as 'the linchpin of Government'.

It is also the constitutional obligation of the Prime Minister to communicate to the President all decisions of the Council of Ministers relating to the administration of the affairs of the Union and proposals for legislation. The Prime Minister is involved in all crucial decisions of the government and decides on the policies of the government. Usually, the Prime Minister also acts as the leader of the Lok Sabha. Hence the PM acts as a linchpin between the Council of Ministers, President and the Parliament.

67. Solution: (b)

Exp) option b is the correct answer,

The election of President is held in accordance with the System of Proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the voting is by secret ballot.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Electoral college for Presidential election consists of

1. the elected members of both the houses of Parliament
2. the elected members of the Legislative assemblies of the states, and
3. the elected members of the legislative assemblies of the union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry.

It does not consists of the members either elected or nominated from the State Legislative councils.

Statement 2 is correct. The value of **Vote of MLA will differ from state to state as it is based on population criteria** and population of each state is different. However, the **value of each member of parliament is the same whether** the member is from Lok Sabha or is from Rajya Sabha. This is because, total value of votes of all MLA is considered to arrive at the value of Vote of MP.

Statement 3 is correct. Where an assembly is dissolved, the members cease to be qualified to vote in the presidential election.

Important Tips

All the doubts and disputes in connection with the election of the President are **enquired into and decided by the Supreme court of India whose decision is final.**

$$\text{Value of the vote of an MLA} = \frac{\text{Total population of state}}{\text{Total number of elected members in the state legislative assembly}} \times \frac{1}{1000}$$

$$\text{Value of the vote of an MP} = \frac{\text{Total value of votes of all MLAs of all states}}{\text{Total number of elected members of Parliament}}$$

68. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **Indian Constitution** has **built-in safeguards** to **handle situations** where the **highest office in the executive branch is vacated** or the President is unable to perform their duties. These **provisions are crucial for maintaining the uninterrupted functioning of government.**

Statement 1 is incorrect: When the **term of the President of India ends**, the **outgoing President continues in office until the successor is elected and takes charge.** This is **not a case where the Vice-President needs to step in** because the Presidency is not vacant, and the President is not incapacitated. **Article 56 of the Indian Constitution** primarily deals with this situation.

Statement 2 is correct: Under Article 65 of the Constitution, in the event of the **resignation of the President, the Vice-President discharges the functions of the President** until a new President is elected.

Statement 3 is correct: The **Vice-President also acts as the President if the incumbent is unable to perform their duties due to illness or any other reason,** ensuring that the executive functions of the government are not hindered.

Statement 4 is correct: Upon the **impeachment of the sitting President, the Vice-President steps in as the acting President under Article 65, to maintain stability** and continuity at the highest level of the executive branch.

Important Tips

1. The Vice-President has all the powers and immunities of the President while acting as, or discharging the functions of, President. They are also entitled to the salary and privileges of the President.
2. There have been instances in Indian history where the Vice-President has had to step in as the acting President, such as when President Zakir Hussain died in office in 1969, and Vice-President V.V. Giri assumed the role temporarily.

69. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Union executive consists of the President, the Vice-President, and the Council of Ministers with the Prime Minister as the head to aid and advise the President. The dynamics of their **roles and responsibilities are defined** extensively in the Constitution to ensure a balance of power and effective governance.

Statement I is correct: Under the **Indian Constitution, the President has the power to remove a minister, but only on the recommendation of the Prime Minister.** The removal of ministers by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister is **guided by Article 75(2)** of the Constitution, which states that the Ministers shall hold office during the pleasure of the President.

Statement II is incorrect: There are two aspects to Executive responsibility: the Council of Ministers is **collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha and the Ministers are individually responsible to President (and not the Prime Minister)** for the work of the Ministries under their charge. Under ministerial responsibility, the Ministers owe responsibility for all matters and performance of the Departments they head. The accountability of the Council of Ministers involves a constant control of the Parliament over the Government as control and accountability go together.

70. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Central Council of Ministers** in India refers to the collective body of ministers **headed by the Prime Minister** at the national level. **Article 74 of the Indian Constitution** delineates the status of the Council of Ministers, defining their role and relationship with the President. In contrast, **Article 75** focuses on the appointment, tenure, responsibilities, qualifications, oaths, salaries, and allowances of the ministers, outlining the procedural aspects of their service within the government.

Statement 1 is correct: Supreme Court's ruling in the **V.N.R. Rao case (1971)** held that as per **Article 74 of the Indian Constitution, the Council of Ministers remains in office even after the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.** This continuity ensures that the executive power of the President is exercised with the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers, as mandated by Article 74.

Statement 2 is correct: Nature of advice tendered by ministers to the President **cannot be enquired by any court (Article 74 of the Constitution).** This provision underscores the confidential nature of the advice given by ministers to the President, preventing any court from inquiring into its details.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The constitution does not classify the member of a council of ministers into different ranks. All the ranks have been done informally and has got legislative sanction. **For e.g. Salaries and Allowance of Ministers Act, 1952 uses two terms Ministers and Deputy Ministers.**

71. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: Reprieve implies a stay of the execution of a sentence (especially that of death) for a temporary period. It does not deal with reducing the period of sentence. Its purpose is to enable the convict to have time to seek pardon or commutation from the President. **Hence option a is incorrect.**

Option b is incorrect: Commutation denotes the substitution of one form of punishment for a lighter form. It does not deal with reducing the period of sentence. For example, a death sentence may be commuted to rigorous imprisonment, which in turn may be commuted to a simple Imprisonment. **Hence option b is incorrect.**

Option c is correct: Remission implies reducing the period of sentence without changing its character. For example, a sentence of rigorous imprisonment for two years may be remitted to rigorous imprisonment for one year. **Hence option c is incorrect.**

Option d is incorrect: Respite denotes awarding a lesser sentence in place of one originally awarded due to some special fact, such as the physical disability of a convict or the pregnancy of a woman offender. **It does not deal with reducing the period of sentence without changing the nature of the punishment. Hence option d is incorrect.**

72. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Under Article 111, Suspensive Veto allows the President to return a non-money bill for reconsideration to the Parliament. However, if Parliament passes the bill again without amendments, the President is obliged to give assent. It doesn't apply to Money Bills and cannot delay their enactment.

Statement-I is correct: Under article 111,the President does not have the power to withhold their assent to a Money Bill (Suspensive veto). The President can only give their assent to the bill as money bill is introduced prior to his assent only.

Statement-II is incorrect: The 24th Constitutional Amendment Act, made it obligatory for the President to give his assent to a Constitutional Amendment act and is not related to Money bills.

73. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Prime Minister of India, the head of government, is appointed by the President. The Prime Minister leads the

Council of Ministers, formulates policies, represents India internationally, and is responsible for the overall governance and administration of the country.

Statement 1 is correct: In the parliamentary system of India, when the Prime Minister resigns from office, it results in the automatic dissolution of the Council of Ministers. This convention is based on the principle of collective responsibility, where the Council of Ministers collectively supports the Prime Minister. When the Prime Minister resigns, it signifies the loss of confidence in their leadership, which in turn affects the collective responsibility of the entire Council of Ministers.

Statement 2 is correct: The Prime Minister advises the President to allocate the ministerial portfolios and reshuffle them among the ministers as deemed necessary. This is an important aspect of the Prime Minister's role in organizing and managing the functioning of the government.

Statement 3 is incorrect: In India, the President of India is the supreme commander of the armed forces, not the Prime Minister (Article 53). The President exercises this role in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of India.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Normally, the Prime Minister nominates a Minister who is a member of Rajya Sabha as Leader of the House, but if the Prime Minister himself is a member of Rajya Sabha, he will be the Leader of the House. **Thus, it is not necessary that Prime Minister is always the leader of the Lower house of Parliament**

74. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Vice-President occupies the second highest office in the country.

Statement 1 is correct: The Vice-President's election is like that of the President's election. It is held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the **voting is by secret ballot.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The qualification required for the election of Vice-President is **not exactly same to that of President**. To be **eligible for election as Vice-President,** a person should be **qualified for election as a member of the Rajya Sabha.** On the other hand, a person to be **eligible for election as President** should be **qualified for election as a member of the Lok Sabha.** The common qualifications need for both are:

- S/he should be a citizen of India.
- S/he should have completed 35 years of age.
- S/he should not hold any office of profit under the Union government or any state government or any local authority or any other public authority.

Statement 3 is correct: Vice-President can also be removed from the office before completion of his/ her tenure. A formal impeachment is not required for his/ her removal. **Further no ground has been mentioned in the Constitution for his/ her removal.**

Important Tips

Article 63 of the Constitution states that "there shall be a Vice-President of India". Under Article 64, the Vice-President "shall be ex officio Chairman of the Council of the States" He/ she is accorded a rank next to the President in the official warrant of precedence. The Vice-President holds office for a tenure of five years from the date on which he/ she enters upon his/ her office. However, he/ she can resign from his/ her office at any time by addressing the resignation letter to the President.

75. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The President of India's legislative powers include summoning Parliament, addressing both Houses, nominating Rajya Sabha members, approving bills, promulgating ordinances which are vital for India's parliamentary democracy. **Certain bills, such as Money Bills require the prior recommendation of the President** before their introduction in the Parliament.

Option 1 is correct: The Indian Constitution outlines a distinct process for the **passage of money bills in Parliament.** Only the Lok Sabha can **introduce a money bill**, and this **can only happen based on the President's prior recommendation.** These bills are categorised as government bills and can be presented solely by a minister. Once approved by the Lok Sabha, a money bill proceeds to the Rajya Sabha for further consideration.

Option 2 is incorrect: According to Article 368 of the Constitution, amendments to the Constitution must begin with the introduction of a bill in either House of Parliament. This bill can be presented by either a minister or a private member and **does not necessitate prior recommendation from the President.**

A few examples of the provisions that can be amended under Article 368 are:

- Election of the President and its manner,
- Extent of the executive power of the Union and the States,
- Provisions related to the Supreme Court and High courts, etc.

Option 3 is correct: Bills that seek to change the boundaries of states also **require the President's prior recommendation before** being introduced in Parliament. This is due to the significant impact such changes can have on the political and administrative landscape of the country.

Option 4 is correct: According to Article 304 of the Indian Constitution- The legislature of a state has the authority to **impose reasonable restrictions on trade, commerce, and intercourse** within or with that state in the public interest. However, **prior sanction from the President is required for introducing a bill for this purpose in the state legislature.**

Option 5 is correct: Bills affecting taxation in which states are interested are those that directly impact state revenue calculations by imposing or altering taxes or duties. Such bills, crucial for state finances, require the prior recommendation of the President before their introduction in Parliament.

Important Tips

Article 110 of the Constitution deals with the **definition of money bills.** It states that a bill is deemed to be a money bill if it contains **'only' provisions dealing with all or any of the following matters:**

1. The imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax;
2. The regulation of the borrowing of money by the Union government;
3. The custody of the Consolidated Fund of India or the contingency fund of India, the payment of moneys into or the withdrawal of money from any such fund;
4. The appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Fund of India;
5. Declaration of any expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India or increasing the amount of any such expenditure;
6. The receipt of money on account of the Consolidated Fund of India or the public account of India or the custody or issue of such money, or the audit of the accounts of the Union or of a state; or
7. Any matter incidental to any of the matters specified above.

76. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Indian Constitution establishes a parliamentary system for states akin to the Centre. Part VI details state governance, focusing on the state executive (Articles 153-167). The governor, akin to the President, is the nominal executive head, acting as the central government's agent.

Statement I is correct. Article 361 protects the Governor from being subjected to any criminal proceedings while he/she holds office for both **official and personal acts**. Thus, no criminal proceedings shall be instituted or continued against the President or the Governor in any court during his/her term of office.

Statement II is correct. Article 14 of the Indian Constitution says that the State shall not deny to any person equality before law or the equal protection of laws within the territory of India.

Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I: India follows equality before the law but at the same time there are exceptions to equality as the rule of equality before law is not absolute. Eg. Provisions of Article 361 under which the President and Governor enjoy certain immunities.

77. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 200 provides that the **assent of the Governor is required to the bills passed by a state legislature.** Similar to the powers of the President, Governor can also give his assent or withhold his assent or can send the bill for the reconsideration of the House. Despite this, **there are certain differences in their powers to exercise veto.**

Statement 1 is incorrect: Suspensive veto means power to send back a bill to the legislature for reconsideration. **Both the President and as well as the Governor can exercise a suspensive veto.** If such a bill is passed again by the legislatures with or without amendment, they are bound to given their assent.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The money bill after it is passed by the Parliament or State Legislature is presented to the President or the Governor respectively for their approval. It becomes an 'Act' only after obtaining the approval. **Both the President or the Governor can either give assent or withhold assent. They cannot send it for reconsideration. This implies that both have veto powers against a money bill, except they cannot send it for reconsideration.** Additionally, the Governor can also reserve a money bill for the President's consideration.

Statement 3 is correct: The Governor has no further role once he/she reserves a bill for the consideration of the President. President can give assent or withhold such a bill. The President can also send back the bill to the state legislature for reconsideration. When the House passes the bill again with or without amendment, **it must be presented again for the Presidential assent only.** This means that neither Governor's assent is required nor can he exercise veto over such bills. Hence, the given statement is correct.

78. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Impeachment of the President is considered a quasi-judicial procedure as he stands removed from post if both houses pass resolution after due process.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The President can be removed from his post by the process of impeachment. The only ground mentioned for impeachment of the President is violation of the constitution. However, the Constitution does not define the phrase "violation of Constitution".

Statement 3 is correct: Impeachment charges can be initiated by either house of the Parliament. These need to be signed by one-fourth of the members of the house and a 14 days' notice should be given to the President. After the impeachment resolution is passed by a majority of two-thirds of the total membership of that House, it is sent to the other House, which should investigate the charges. If the other House also sustains the charges and passes the impeachment resolution by a majority of two-thirds of the total membership, then the President stands removed from his office from the date on which the resolution is so passed. Hence, Both the houses of the Parliament enjoy the same power with respect to Impeachment of President.

Important Tips

President has the right to appear and to be represented at impeachment investigation in another house. No president has been impeached so far.

79. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

A Cabinet committee is a collection of ministers that has the authority to make decisions that are binding on all other ministries and departments.

Statement 1 is correct: They are extra-constitutional in emergence. In other words, **they are not mentioned in the Constitution**. Neither they are established under **any act of Parliament (not statutory).** They are set up under the **Government of India Transaction of Business Rules (TBR), 1961) which states that** there shall be "Standing Committees of the Cabinet". The Prime Minister may, from time to time, amend the Schedule by adding to or reducing the numbers of such Committees or by modifying the functions assigned to them.

Statement 2 is incorrect: They are **set up by the Prime Minister** according to the exigencies of the time and requirements of the situation. Hence, their number, nomenclature, and composition varies from time to time.

Statement 3 is correct: They are an organisational device to reduce and manage the enormous workload of the Cabinet. They also facilitate in-depth examination of policy issues and effective coordination. They are based on the principles of division of labour and effective delegation.

80. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Office of the President and the Governor the constitutional offices. Article 52 provides for the Office of the President of India and Article 153 provides for the office of Governor for every state. Governor is appointed by the President for a period of 5 years on the advice of the Union Cabinet.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution empowers Governor to act as per his discretion in certain cases. However, no such possibility has been envisaged in the Constitution for the President. Hence, the Constitution provides for wider discretionary powers to the Governor than the President. The Constitution provides that Governor can exercise his discretion in the following matters:

1. In **reserving a bill for the President's consideration**
2. For recommending imposition of the **President's rule** in the State,
3. While exercising his functions **as an administrator of an adjoining union territory**.
4. In determining the **amount payable as royalty on license for mineral exploration** to the Autonomous District Councils of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.
5. **Seeking information from Chief Minister** regarding both administrative as well as legislative matters.

Discretion in above matters implies that the Governor is not required to act as per the advice of the Council of Ministers.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 163 states that If any question arises whether Governor is by or under this Constitution required to act in his discretion, **the decision of the Governor (and not President) in his discretion shall be final**. It further states that **the validity of anything done by the Governor shall not be called in question** on the ground that he ought or ought not to have acted in his discretion.

81. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statements 1 and 3 are correct: Article 65 of Constitution of India provides for the Vice-President to act as President of India or to discharge his functions during casual vacancies in the office, or during the absence, of President.

1. In the event of the occurrence of any vacancy in the office of the President by reason of **his death, resignation or removal,** or otherwise, the Vice-President shall act as President until the date on which a new President elected in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter to fill such vacancy enters upon his office.

Statement 4 is correct: When the President is unable to discharge his functions owing to absence, illness or any other cause, the Vice-President shall discharge his functions until the date on which the President resumes his duties.

Statement 2 is incorrect: In case of any delay in conducting the election of a new President by any reason, the outgoing President continues to hold office (beyond his term of five years) until his successor assumes charge.

Important Tips

In case the office of Vice-President is vacant, the Chief Justice of India acts as the President. When President Dr. Zakir Hussain died in May 1969, the then Vice-President, V.V. Giri was acting as the President. Soon after V.V. Giri resigned to contest the election of the President. Then the Chief Justice of India, M. Hidayatullah worked as the officiating President.

82. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Under **Article 72 of the Constitution,** the President shall have the power to grant pardons, reprieves, respites or remissions of punishment or to suspend, remit or commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence where the sentence is a sentence of death.

The pardoning power of the President is independent of the Judiciary. But the President while exercising this power, does not sit as a court of appeal. The object of conferring this power on the President to keep the door open for correcting any judicial errors in the operation of law and to afford relief from a sentence, which the President regards as unduly harsh.

Options 1,2 and 3 are correct: The President grants pardons to persons who have been tried and convicted of any offense in all cases where the:

1. Punishment or sentence is for an offense against a Union Law or the offense made under Concurrent Lists (A regards laws made under Concurrent Lists; the jurisdiction of the President shall be concurrent with that of Governor) **(Option 1 is correct)**
2. Punishment or sentence is by a court martial (military court); and **(Option 2 is correct)**
3. The sentence is a sentence of death **(Option 3 is correct)**

Important Tips

The President can grant pardons, reprieves, respites and remissions of punishment or suspend, remit and commute the sentence of any person convicted of any offence. Only the President can pardon sentence inflicted by court martial.

83. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Groups of Ministers are ad hoc bodies formed to give recommendations to the cabinet on certain emergent issues and critical problem areas. Ministers heading the concerned ministries are inducted into the relevant Group of Ministers and when the advice is crystallised, they are disbanded.

Statement 2 is incorrect: A Group of Ministers gets appointed under the Government of India's Transaction of Business Rules, 1961 (not Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961), which provides that 'Ad hoc Committees of Ministers including Group of Ministers may be appointed by the Cabinet, or by the Prime Minister for investigating & reporting to the Cabinet on such matters as may be specified.'

Statement 3 is incorrect: The present government abolished all ministerial groups in 2014 after coming into power. **However, the government again set up** Group of Ministers **in new form.** Now, in their new avatar, they are "informal" and issue-specific, constituted and dissolved on the basis of immediate requirements, without much paperwork. This has resulted in quicker decision making, and there are no elaborate mechanisms. **It means,** Group of Ministers **are formed even after 2014, which makes statement 3 incorrect.** For example, a **Group of Ministers chaired by the Home Minister** was convened to create greater synergy between ministries on the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Bill, 2018.

84. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

Articles 358 and 359 describe the effect of a National Emergency on the Fundamental Rights. Article 358 deals with the suspension of the Fundamental Rights guaranteed by Article 19, while Article 359 deals with the suspension of other Fundamental Rights (except those guaranteed by Articles 20 and 21).

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 358 operates only in case of External Emergency (that is, when the emergency is declared on the grounds of war or external aggression) and not in the case of Internal Emergency (i.e., when the Emergency is declared on the ground of armed rebellion). Article 359, on the other hand, operates in case of both External Emergency as well as Internal Emergency.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 359 authorizes the president to suspend the right to move any court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights during a National Emergency. This means that under Article 359, the Fundamental Rights as such are not suspended, but only their enforcement. The said rights are theoretically alive but the right to seek remedy is suspended. **Further, the 44 Amendment Act mandates that the President cannot suspend the right to move the court for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights guaranteed by Article 20 and 21.**

85. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 58 of Constitution of India suggests that No person shall be eligible for election as President unless he—

a. is a citizen of India,

b. has completed the age of thirty-five years, and

c. **is qualified for election as a member of the House of the People.**

Hence, to be elected as the President, the candidates need to be qualified to become a member of the Lok Sabha/House of People.

Statement 2 is correct: The President shall not be a member of either House of Parliament or of a House of the Legislature of any state and if any such member is elected President, **he shall be claimed to have vacated his seat in that House on the date on which he enters upon office as President. So, a Member of Parliament may contest for the election of president but he/she have to vacant his seat before he/she enters upon the office of President.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: Neelam Sanjeev Reddy is the only president to be elected unopposed till now. He was elected in 1977 for the post of President of India.

5.2. State Executive

86. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement I is incorrect- The Supreme Court in **Hargovind v. Raghukul Tilak, 1979,** held that the **office of Governor of a state** is not an employment under the **Central Government.** The Office of the Governor is an **independent Constitutional office.** It is neither in control of the Central Government nor is it subordinate to it. Governors are **constitutional heads of state,** and they are appointed by the **President of India** on the advice of the **Council of Ministers.** While the Council of Ministers is part of the Central Government, the Governor is not.

Statement II is correct- The Governor is appointed by the **President of India** by warrant under his hand and seal on the recommendations of the **Central Government.**

87. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct- Article 72 of the Constitution of India gives the **President** the power to **pardon, reprieve, respite or commute** the sentence of any person convicted of any offence. This includes the power to **suspend a punishment awarded by a military court. Article 161** of the Constitution of India does not give the governor the power to **suspend a punishment** awarded by a **military court.** This is because military courts are **not subject** to the **jurisdiction of the state government.**

Statement 2 is correct- Article 72 of the Constitution of India gives the **President** the power to **pardon, reprieve, respite or commute the sentence** of any person convicted of any offence. This includes the power to **commute a punishment awarded by a central law. Article 161** of the Constitution of India gives the **governor** the power to **suspend, remit or commute** the sentence of any person convicted of any offence against state law. This includes the power to **commute a punishment awarded by a state law.**

88. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The executive at the state level comprises the Governor, the Chief Minister, the Council of Ministers and the Advocate General of the State.

The Governor of the state is the formal head of the State executive.

Statement 1 is correct. Article 155 in the Constitution of India provides that the Governor of a State shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Governor holds office during the pleasure of the President. Thus, the President can remove him at any time. **A formal process of impeachment is not required for his removal.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. Article 74 (1) says that the President shall exercise his functions in accordance with the advice tendered by the union Council of Ministers. However, there are certain situations where the President can exercise the powers using his or her own discretion. For example, the President can send back the advice given by the Council of Ministers and ask the Council to reconsider the decision.

Like the President, **the Governor also has discretionary powers. In fact, the Governor has more discretionary powers than the President.** Article 163 says that "There shall be a Council of Ministers with the Chief Minister at the head to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of his functions, **except in so far as he is required to exercise his functions or any of them in his discretion.**"

Important Tips

Article 153 states that there shall be a Governor for each state, appointed by the President of India. The Governor acts as the constitutional head of the state and represents the President at the state level. It also allows for the appointment of the same person as Governor for two or more states. This provision was added by the 7th Amendment, 1956.

89. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The Governor confirms that the state budget or the Annual Financial Statement is laid before the State Legislature. **Money Bills can be introduced in the State Legislature only with the prior recommendation of the Governor.**

Statement 2 is correct: Demand for a grant in the state legislature can be made only on the Governor's recommendation.

Statement 3 is correct: To meet any unforeseen expenditure, the **Governor can make advances out of the Contingency Fund of the State.**

Statement 4 is correct: The **Governor constitutes a Finance Commission for the State** after every five years to review the financial position of the Panchayats and the Municipalities.

90. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The **Chief Minister** is the **head of the state government** and plays a pivotal role in the administration and governance of the state. As the leader of the Council of Ministers, the Chief Minister performs various executive, legislative, and advisory functions critical to state governance.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Inter-State Council (ISC) is a constitutional body established under Article 263 of the Constitution to foster coordination between states and the Union. The Prime Minister is the Chairman of the Inter-State Council, while the **Union-Home Minister** serves as its **Vice-Chairman. Chief Ministers are only members of the Council and does not serve as the Vice-Chairman on a rotational basis.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: In most Indian states, the **Governor serves as the ex-officio Chancellor of state universities.** The Chancellor's functions include appointing Vice-Chancellors, presiding over convocations, and approving university statutes. The **Chief Minister does not hold this position** or perform these functions.

Statement 3 is correct: As the **head of the state government, the Chief Minister acts as the chief spokesman,** representing the government's policies, decisions, and actions to the public and media.

Statement 4 is correct: The **Chief Minister is the Chairman of the State Planning Board**, which is responsible for formulating the state's developmental policies and plans.

91. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Options 1, 2, 3 and 4 are correct. Article 164(1) of the Constitution mandates the states of **Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and Odisha,** to appoint a Minister in charge of tribal welfare who may also handle the welfare of Scheduled Castes and backward classes or other responsibilities.

Option 5 is incorrect. Rajasthan is not mandated by the Constitution to have a minister in charge of tribal welfare.

92. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 213 of the Indian Constitution grants the Governor the authority to promulgate ordinances during the recess of the Legislature. It also provides for limitations on the Governor's power to issue an ordinance.

Statement 1 is correct: As per article 213(1) of the Constitution of India -If at any time, except when the Legislative Assembly of a State is in session, or where there is a Legislative Council in a State, except when both Houses

of the Legislature are in session, the Governor is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action, he may promulgate such Ordinances as the circumstances appear to him to require:

Provided that the Governor shall not, without instructions from the President, promulgate any such Ordinance if—

(a) a Bill containing the same provisions would under this Constitution have required the previous sanction of the President for the introduction thereof into the Legislature; or

(b) he would have deemed it necessary to reserve a Bill containing the same provisions for the consideration of the President; or

(c) an Act of the Legislature of the State containing the same provisions would under this Constitution have been invalid unless, having been reserved for the consideration of the President, it had received the assent of the President.

Now According to Article 200 of the Indian Constitution-

- When a Bill has been passed by the Legislative Assembly of a State or, in the case of a State having a Legislative Council, has been passed by both Houses of the Legislature of the State, it shall be presented to the Governor and the Governor shall declare either that he assents to the Bill or that he withholds assent therefrom or that he reserves the Bill for the consideration of the President:
- Provided that the Governor may, as soon as possible after the presentation to him of the Bill for assent, return the Bill if it is not a Money Bill together with a message requesting that the House or Houses will reconsider the Bill or any specified provisions thereof and, in particular, will consider the desirability of introducing any such amendments as he may recommend in his message and, when a Bill is so returned, the House or Houses shall reconsider the Bill accordingly, and if the Bill is passed again by the House or Houses with or without amendment and presented to the Governor for assent, the Governor shall not withhold assent therefrom:
- **Provided further that the Governor shall not assent to, but shall reserve for the consideration of the President, any Bill which in the opinion of the Governor would, if it became law, so derogate from the powers of the High Court as to endanger the position which that Court is by this Constitution designed to fill.**

Now reading the provisions of Article 213(1) (b) and 200 (third para) we get that, the Governor shall not, without instructions from the President, promulgate any such Ordinance which has provisions which endanger the power of the High Court.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Not all bills containing the subject of concurrent list require assent of the President.

Article 213(3) - **where the Governor cannot issue an ordinance** on provisions requiring presidential assent for a state act, **will not be attracted unless any provision of the Ordinance proposed to be promulgated is, in fact, repugnant to the provision of a Union law or an existing law relating to a matter in the Concurrent List. If there is no such repugnancy**, the Ordinance would be valid even if it was promulgated without the previous instructions from the President, provided such instructions are not required on a ground other than that of repugnancy.

93. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 158 (3A) of the Constitution of India mentions that when the same person is appointed as Governor of two or more States, the emoluments and allowances payable to the Governor shall be allocated among the States in such proportion as the President may by order determine.

94. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

According to Article 160 of the Indian Constitution, the **President** can make such provision as he thinks fit for the discharge of the functions of the Governor of a State in any contingency not mentioned in the Constitution of India.

95. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Governor is the constitutional head of a state and holds office under Part VI of the Constitution. Appointed by the President of India, the Governor's role includes a range of legislative, executive, and judicial functions. However, their office is bound by specific qualifications, conditions of service, and constitutional protocols.

Statement 1 is correct. As per **Article 158(1)** of the Constitution, the Governor **shall not be a member of either House of Parliament or of a House of the Legislature of any State**. If a member of either House of Parliament or of a House of the Legislature of any such State be appointed Governor, he/she shall be deemed to have vacated his seat in that House on the date on which he enters upon his office as Governor.

Statement 2 is correct. As per **Article 159**, the **Chief Justice of the High Court of the concerned state**, or in their absence, the **senior-most judge of that court**, administers the oath to the Governor of the state.

Statement 3 is correct. According to **Article 158(3)**, the **salaries and allowances of the Governor are determined by Parliament** through legislation. Currently, this is governed by the **Governor's (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982**. The salary is charged on the **Consolidated Fund of the State**, but the **amount is fixed by the law made by the Parliament.**

96. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **Governor**, as the constitutional head of a state under **Article 153**, performs a variety of executive functions. Many appointments in the state are done formally by the Governor, either on the **advice of the Council of Ministers** or **under specific legal provisions** (including the Constitution and state laws).

Option 1 is correct. According to Article 243K(1) of the Constitution, the State Election Commissioner is appointed by the Governor of the state. The provision ensures that the Governor appoints the authority responsible for conducting elections to Panchayats and Municipalities. However, the removal of the State Election Commissioner is done by the President, in the manner prescribed for a judge of the High Court.

Option 2 is correct. According to Article 316(1) of the Constitution, the Governor appoints the Chairman and other members of the State Public Service Commission. This is a constitutional provision that gives the Governor the power of appointment. However, the removal of such members lies with the President, as per **Article 317**, and can be done only after an inquiry by the Supreme Court.

Option 3 is correct. The Advocate General is the highest legal officer in the state and is appointed by the Governor under Article 165(1) of the Constitution. The person appointed must be qualified to be a judge of a High Court.

Option 4 is incorrect. The **Chief Secretary is the topmost civil servant in a state** and functions as the administrative head of the state government. **He is appointed by the state government** and not the Governor.

97. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 164 of the Constitution provides for the **Chief Minister and other Ministers, but it does not mandate the appointment of a Deputy Chief Minister**. The post of Deputy Chief Minister is not a constitutional requirement but is created as per the discretion of the Chief Minister for **political or administrative reasons and Coalition arrangements**.

Statement 2 is correct: The Deputy Chief Minister, when appointed, holds a **rank equivalent to that of a cabinet minister in the state government**. They are part of the **state council of ministers and participate in cabinet decisions.** The "**Deputy**" title signifies their position as the **second-in-command to the Chief Minister,** but in terms of ministerial hierarchy and powers, they **are on par with other cabinet ministers.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: When the Chief Minister's (CM) post falls vacant the council of minister in the state dissolves. Hence Deputy CM does not automatically becomes CM.

98. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement I is incorrect. As per **Article 299 of the Indian Constitution, neither the President nor the Governor shall be personally liable** in respect of any contract or assurance made or executed for the purposes of the Constitution.These constitutional authorities act on behalf of the government and not in their personal capacity. Therefore, liability, if any, lies with the Government of India or the State Government, not the individual officeholders.

Statement II is correct. According to **Article 299** of the Indian Constitution, **all contracts made in the exercise of the executive power** of the Union or a State **shall be expressed to be made by the President or the Governor**, respectively. This ensures that such contracts are constitutionally valid and clearly attributable to the proper authority, even though they are not personally responsible for them.

99. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Under **Article 213** of the Indian Constitution, the **Governor of a state** has the power to **promulgate ordinances** when the **state legislature is not in session**, and circumstances exist which render it necessary to take immediate action. This power is similar to that of the President under Article 123 at the Union level.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The **ordinance-making power of the Governor is not a discretionary power**. This means that he can promulgate or withdraw an ordinance only on the advice of the council of ministers headed by the chief minister.

Statement 2 is correct. The Governor can promulgate an **ordinance only when the Legislative Assembly is not in session** in the case of a unicameral legislature, or when **either Houses** of the state legislature are **not in session** in the case of a bicameral legislature. This is because a bill must be passed by both Houses to become law, and if only one House is in session, the legislative process cannot be completed.

Statement 3 is incorrect. An ordinance issued by Governor **ceases to operate on the expiry of six weeks from the reassembly of the state legislature (thus 6 weeks is not from the date of its promulgation rather reassembly of the legislature**). It may cease to operate even earlier than the prescribed six weeks, if a resolution disapproving it is passed by the legislative assembly and is agreed to by the legislative council (in case of a bicameral legislature).

100. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

When a bill is sent to the Governor after it is passed by state legislature, he can give his assent to the bill, or withhold his assent to the bill, or return the bill or reserve the bill for the consideration of the President.

Reserving the bill for the President becomes **obligatory when the bill passed by the state legislature endangers the position of the state high court.**

In addition, the Governor can also reserve **(discretionary power of the Governor and not obligatory on the Governor)** the bill if it is of the following nature:

(i) Ultra-vires, that is, against the provisions of the Constitution.

(ii) Opposed to the Directive Principles of State Policy.

(iii) Against the larger interest of the country.

(iv) Of grave national importance.

(v) Dealing with compulsory acquisition of property under Constitution.

101. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 153 of Indian Constitution says that there should be a Governor for each state. A **Governor** has powers **similar to the President of India** in areas like **running the state, making laws, managing money, and handling legal matters**, but unlike the President, the Governor **doesn't have diplomatic, military, or emergency powers.**

Statement 1 is incorrect- Article 217 of the Indian Constitution states that the **President appoints every High Court Judge** through a **warrant under his hand and seal**, following consultations with-

1. the **Chief Justice of India,**
2. **the State's Governor,**
3. and, if the appointment is for a Judge other than the Chief Justice, the **High Court's Chief Justice.**

The Supreme Court has also held in several cases that the Governor does not have the power to appoint judges to the High Court. In the case of **S.P. Gupta v. Union of India, 1981**, the Court held that the Governor's role in the appointment of High Court judges is merely **advisory**. The Court also held that the **President is not bound** to accept the Governor's recommendations.

Statement 2 is correct- Article 233 of the Indian Constitution states that the Governor of a state **consults the High Court of the State** while making appointments, promotions, and postings of the judges of the District Courts.

Statement 3 is correct- The governor, in consultations with the **state High Court** and the **State Public Service Commission,** appoints people for the **state's judicial service, except for district judges.**

102. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

India being a diverse country and with a large percentage of Scheduled Tribes in some of the states, the constitution created a special Ministry of Tribal Welfare. Details of those are as follows:

Statement 1 is incorrect – The provision with respect to appointment of Minister in charge of Tribal Welfare in some states was already present in the constitution since its inception. There was no changes made into this through 42nd Amendment Act. This is in consonance with Article 164 of the Indian Constitution. 94th Amendment Act of 2006 made the changes which excluded Bihar and included Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand in it.

Statement 2 is incorrect – This is a constitutional provision and only in the states of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Odisha and not in all the scheduled areas. Article 164 says there shall be a Minister in charge of tribal welfare who may in addition be in charge of the welfare of the scheduled castes and backward classes or any other work.

103. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 152 to 237 of the Indian Constitutions talks about the **State Legislature.** The governor appoints the Chief Ministers and **Article 163** states that the State Council of Ministers **is an advisory body to the governor.**

Statement 1 is incorrect- The **state legislature** periodically determines the **salaries and allowances for ministers.** A minister's compensation aligns with that of a state legislature member. In addition, ministers receive a **sumptuary allowance** commensurate with their position, along with various benefits like **free accommodation, travel allowances, and medical facilities.**

Statement 2 is correct- Article 164(4) of the Constitution of India, states that "A Minister who for any reason is not a member of the Legislative Assembly of the State shall cease to be a Minister at the **expiration of six months** from the date on which he assumes office." This means that a person **who is not a member of the state legislative assembly** can be appointed as a minister, but they can only remain in office for a **maximum of 6 months.** If they are not elected to the state legislative assembly within 6 months of taking office, they must **resign.**

104. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 164 also incorporates the concept of **individual responsibility**. It stipulates that ministers serve at the **pleasure of the governor,** allowing the governor to dismiss a minister while the council of ministers still **enjoys the legislative assembly's confidence**. However, such dismissal can only occur upon the **chief minister's advice**. In instances of disagreement or dissatisfaction with a minister's performance, the chief minister can request their resignation or advise the governor to remove them. Through this authority, the chief minister can uphold the practice of collective responsibility.

105. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 158 (3A) of the Constitution of India mentions **that** when the same person is appointed as Governor of two or more States, the emoluments and allowances payable to the Governor shall be allocated among the States in such proportion as the President may by order determine.

106. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect- Article 163 of the Indian Constitution talks about the **Governor's discretion. The** Constitution states that when there's a doubt about whether something is the governor's decision, the **governor's choice is final. No one can challenge the validity of their actions,** arguing whether they made the right call in their discretion or not. The governor possesses constitutional discretion in the following instances:

1. Reserving a bill for the President's consideration. (Article 200)
2. Recommending the imposition of President's Rule in the state. (Article 356)

3. When performing duties as the administrator of an adjacent union territory (in the case of additional charge). (Article 239)
4. Assessing the royalties payable by the Governments of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram to autonomous Tribal District Councils arising from mineral exploration licenses.
5. Requesting information from the chief minister concerning state administrative and legislative matters. (Article 167)

Statement 2 is incorrect- Article 163 outlines the **roles and powers** of the **Council of Ministers** in assisting the **Governor in their functions,** with the **Chief Minister as the head**. This assistance is mandated unless the Constitution requires the Governor to exercise **discretion.** In cases where there is a dispute regarding the Governor's discretion, the **Governor's decision is considered final**, and the **validity of their actions cannot be challenged** on the grounds of their use or non-use of discretion. The **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976** made the advisory powers of the Council of Ministers **binding on the President,** whereas it is not the case with respect to the State Council of Ministers and the Governor.

Important Tips

The governor, just like the President, also possesses situational discretion, which arises from the specific political circumstances, in the following instances:

1. The selection of a chief minister in situations where no political party has a clear majority in the state legislative assembly or when the incumbent chief minister passes away unexpectedly with no clear successor.
2. The removal of the council of ministers when it is unable to demonstrate the support of the state legislative assembly.
3. The dissolution of the state legislative assembly if the council of ministers has lost its majority.

107. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement I is incorrect- Qualified veto is a type of veto in which the **veto can be overridden by a special majority vote of the legislature (as in the case of President of United States of America)**. However, **neither the Governor of a State nor the President** of India has the power of Qualified Veto.

Statement II is correct- The Governor can **reject, withhold, grant assent to the bill** or **reserve the bill for the assent by President.** The Constitution of India **does not provide any time limit** for the Governor to act on a bill passed by the state legislature. However, in practice, Governors are expected to act on bills within a reasonable amount of time.

108. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The office of a Chief Secretary had its origin in the Central Government during the British rule(created in 1799 by Lord Wellesley). **The Chief Secretary is the executive head of the State Secretariat.** He is the administrative head of the state administration and stands at the apex of the state administrative hierarchy.

Statement 1 is correct. The Chief Secretary acts as the head of the State Civil Services Board. He deals with all cases related to appointment, transfers and promotion of senior state civil servants. He plays an important role in maintaining the morale of the state civil service. He is the conscience keeper to all state civil servants.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The office of Chief Secretary has been excluded from the tenure system. In other words, **there is no fixed tenure for this post.**

Statement 3 is correct. He looks after all those matters which do not fall within the purview of other secretaries. The administrative control over the secretariat building, the staff attached to the ministers, the central record branch, the secretariat library, the conservancy and watch and ward staff of the secretariat departments vests in him. He is the principal channel of communication between his government and the Central government and other state governments and in this capacity plays a significant role in the administration of law and order and planning.

109. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Indian Constitution follows a parliamentary system for both states and the Centre. In Part VI. Articles 153 to 167 discuss the state executive, including the governor, chief minister, council of ministers, and state advocate general.

Statement-I is correct: The Chief Minister of a state has no fixed tenure. It depends on the support of the majority in the Legislative Assembly. As long as he enjoys the confidence of the majority, he/she remains in the post.

Statement-II is correct: The Chief minister of state **holds the office during the pleasure of the Governor.** However, this does not mean that the Governor can dismiss him at any time. He/she cannot be dismissed by the Governor as long as he/she enjoys the majority support in the legislative assembly. But, if he/she loses the confidence of the assembly, he/she must resign, or the Governor can dismiss him.

Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I: The **pleasure of Governor cannot be exercised as he pleases.** Rather it is exercised cautiously. As long as the CM enjoys confidence of majority in the house, he cannot be dismissed. Once the CM loses majority support in the house then the Governor can exercise his pleasure by dismissing him.

110. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The appointment powers of Governor regarding various judicial positions are:

1. He makes appointments, postings and promotions of the **district judge** in consultation with the State High Court.
2. He appoints **persons to the judicial services of the state** (other than District Judge) in consultation with the State Public Service Commission (SPSC) and the state high court.

He does not make appointment of the High Court Judges. They are appointed by the President of India. However, while making such an appointment, the Governor of the state is consulted by the President.

Statement 2 is incorrect: There is no provision pertaining to Governor's approval/ confirmation on the death sentence passed by a District Court. Instead, the death sentence passed by the district court needs to be confirmed by the state High Court.

111. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Governor is the nominal head of a state, while the Chief Minister is the executive head. All executive actions of the state are taken in the name of the Governor.

Statement 1 is *incorrect*: The Governor is **immune from any criminal proceedings**, even in respect of his personal acts, during his term of office. He cannot be arrested or imprisoned. However, **civil proceedings can be instituted against the Governor** during his term of office in respect of his personal acts, **after giving two months' notice**. So, he is not **immune from any civil proceedings.**

Statement 2 is *incorrect*: The oath of office of the governor is administered by the **chief justice of the concerned state high court** and not by the president. In the absence of him, **the senior most judge of that court** is available.

112. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 provides for disqualification of Member of Parliament (MPs) and Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) on conviction of certain offences. It classifies offences under different categories. Offences like promoting enmity among different groups on the grounds of religion, race, language etc. would lead to immediate disqualification if conviction results in imprisonment (irrespective of sentence period). On the other hand, there are grounds where disqualification provisions are attracted only if the sentence for imprisonment is for more than 6 months or 2 years. Hence, it is incorrect to say that conviction for any offence will lead to disqualification.

Statement 2 is correct: Though, a Minister in State Government holds office till the pleasure of the Governor. However, **practically it is not the discretion of the Governor and he is bound by the aid and advice of the Chief Minister in this regard.** The Chief Minister decides whom to retain and whom to oust. Thus, Governor cannot retain a minister against the wishes of the Chief Minister.

Statement 3 is correct: The Governor can sanction for the prosecution of the Minister but the proof for the same needs to be satisfactory. There are both kinds of cases when the Governor has sanctioned prosecution, that is, **on the advice of the council of ministers as well as without such advice.** For example, in **M.P. Special Police Establishment vs. State of M.P., 2005,** Governor sanctioned for the prosecution of the Chief Minister under the Prevention of Corruption Act **without the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers. The Supreme Court upheld the validity of such a decision of the Governor.**

Important Tips

The disqualification provisions under section 8 of Representation of People Act, 1951 can be classified under the following categories:

1. **Offences under section 8(1)** which deals with promoting enmity between different groups on the grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language etc., offence of undue personation at an election, offences relating to rape, offences under Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) etc. **and if convicted for imprisonment shall be disqualified with immediate effect**
2. **Offences under section 8(2)** like hoarding, profiteering, adulteration of food or drugs, under the provisions of Dowry Prohibition Act (1961) **shall be disqualified only if the imprisonment is for 6 months or more.**
3. **Offences under section 8(3) require imprisonment of at least 2 years for attracting disqualification provisions.** These include any sentence other than for offences related to section 8(1) and 8(2) above.

113. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Usually, Reports of Constitutional Bodies are submitted to the Governor who lays those reports before the state legislature.

Options 1 and 3 are correct: Governor lays the reports of the **State Finance Commission, the State Public Service Commission** and the Comptroller and Auditor General relating to the accounts of the state, before the state legislature.

Option 4 is incorrect: In general, reports of Statutory Bodies are submitted to State Government. For example, the State Human Rights Commission submits its annual or special reports to the state government. These reports are laid before the state legislature, along with a memorandum of action taken on the recommendations of the Commission and the reasons for non-acceptance of any of such recommendations.

Option 2 is incorrect: Similarly, the reports of the **State Information Commission** are submitted an annual report to the State Government on the implementation of the provisions of this Act.

114. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: He appoints the advocate general of a state and determines his remuneration. The advocate general holds office **during the pleasure of the governor.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: He decides on the question of disqualification of members of the state legislature **in consultation with the Election Commission of India (not State Election Commission).**

Statement 3 is incorrect: He is consulted **by the President (Not Chief Justice of India)** while appointing the judges of the concerned state's High Court.

Statement 4 is correct: The Governor of the state is the ex-officio chancellor of the State universities. The Governor's powers and functions as the Chancellor are laid out in the statutes that govern the universities under a particular state government. While under the Central Universities Act, 2009, and other statutes, the **President of India shall be the Visitor of a central university**. Chancellors in central universities are titular heads, who are appointed by the President in his capacity as Visitor. The Vice-Chancellors too are appointed by the Visitor from panels of names picked by search and selection committees formed by the Union government.

115. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

As per Art. 156, A Governor shall holds office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office. However, this term of five years is subject to the pleasure of the President. **Further, he can resign at any time by addressing a resignation letter to the President.**

Statement 1 is correct: The President, in effect the central government, has the power to remove a Governor at any time without giving him or her any reason, and **without granting an opportunity to be heard**. However, this power cannot be exercised in an arbitrary, capricious or unreasonable manner. The power of removing Governors should only be exercised in rare and exceptional circumstances for valid and compelling reasons.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Constitution does not lay down any grounds upon which a governor may be removed by the President.

Statement 3 is incorrect: There is no such provision in the Constitution. The state government is not involved in the removal process as per the provisions of the Constitution. **However, this has been recommended by the Punchhi Commission (2010) that** he or she should be removed only by a resolution of the state legislature.

116. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Constitution envisages a Parliamentary system of governance in the states. Accordingly, Article 163 provides for the Council of Ministers headed by the Chief Minister to aid and advise the Governor in the exercise of his functions.

Statement 1 is correct: The 91st Constitutional Amendment Act of 2003 added provisions to Article 164 regarding maximum and minimum strength of the Council of Ministers. It states that the total number of Ministers (including the Chief Minister) in the Council of Ministers **shall not exceed 15 percent of the total strength** of the Assembly. It also states that the total number of Ministers (including the Chief Minister) **should not be less than 12.** Hence, it provides for both maximum as well as minimum strength of the Council of Ministers in the States.

Statement 2 is correct: Article 163 expressly provides that the advice tendered by the Ministers to the Governor shall not be questioned in any court. Hence, the given statement is correct.

Statement 3 is correct: The Attorney General of India ranks higher than the State Cabinet Ministers in the order of precedence. The Attorney General is ranked 11th position along with the **Cabinet Secretary**. On the other hand, Cabinet Ministers of State within their respective states are ranked at 15th position, while Cabinet Ministers of State outside their respective state are ranked at the 18th position. Other than the Attorney General, **all the Judges of Supreme Court, Chairperson of Union Public Service Commission, Chief Election Commissioner, Comptroller and Auditor of India, Chief of Staff holding the rank of full General or equivalent** are ranked above the State Cabinet Ministers.

INDIAN POLITY AND GOVERNANCE

UNION AND STATE LEGISLATURE

6.1. Parliament

1. With reference to Rajya Sabha elections, consider the following statements:

1. Anti defection law does not apply to Rajya Sabha elections.
2. Voting in the Rajya Sabha election is based on the secret Ballot system.
3. A dispute regarding the elections to Rajya Sabha is included in the original Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India.
4. NOTA option is available to the Members of Legislative Assemblies in case of elections to Rajya Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 4 only

2. The Parliament of India can legislate on state subjects in national interest upon the passage of a resolution by the Rajya Sabha. In this context consider the following statements:

1. Such a resolution must be passed in Rajya Sabha by a majority of all the then members of the Rajya Sabha.
2. Such a resolution would remain in force for one year at a time.
3. Till the time such a resolution is in force, no state can make laws on the same matter.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 3 only

3. Consider the following statements:

1. Prime Minister always acts as ex-officio Leader of the House for both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.
2. The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha were accorded statutory recognition in 1977.
3. The functions of the office of whip are mentioned in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

4. Under which of the following circumstances, does a Member of Parliament vacate his/her seat in either house of the Parliament?

1. If a sitting member of one House is also elected to the other House.
2. If a member is disqualified on the grounds of defection under the provisions of the Anti-defection law.
3. If a censure motion is passed against the member of the parliament by both the houses.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

5. "The origin of this committee can be traced to the standing financial committee set up in 1921. It suggests alternative policies to bring about efficiency and economy in administration. The Rajya Sabha has no representation in this committee."

Identify the parliamentary committee mentioned in the above passage.

(a) Committee on Public Undertakings
(b) Public Accounts Committee
(c) Estimates Committee
(d) Committee on Government Assurances

6. Which one of the following statements is correct regarding 'Committee on Subordinate Legislation' within Indian Parliamentary setup?

(a) It can only examine the bills related to the matters of law and order and security.
(b) These committees consist of fifteen members in both the Houses of the Parliament.

(c) The recommendations of the committee are binding on the ministers and the house.
(d) Leader of the opposition in the house is the de-facto chairperson of this committee.

7. With reference to 'Departmentally-Related Standing Committees (DRSCs)', consider the following statements:

1. A minister is not eligible to be nominated as a member of any of these standing committees.
2. The term of the office of each standing committee is restricted to single session of the house of the Parliament.
3. These committees cannot examine any of the Demands for Grants of the concerned ministries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

8. Which among the following are Parliamentary Forums working currently in India?

1. Parliamentary forum on Water Conservation and Management.
2. Parliamentary Forum on Global Warming and Climate Change.
3. Parliamentary Forum on Population and Public Health.
4. Parliamentary forum on Socially and Economically Backward Classes (SEBC).
5. Parliamentary forum on Women Empowerment.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1,2,4 and 5 only
(b) 2,3 and 4 only
(c) 1,2 and 3 only
(d) 4 and 5 only

9. Who among the following is the ex-officio chairperson of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG)?

(a) The President of India.
(b) Speaker of Lok Sabha.
(c) Chairperson of Rajya Sabha
(d) The Secretary-general of the Lok Sabha

10. Which of the following are the functions of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG)?

1. It helps Members of Parliament (MPs) to gather required information from Ministers of the concerned departments.
2. The group functions as the National Group of Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU).
3. The group organises conferences of speakers of State legislative assemblies to promote cooperation between states in India.
4. The group aims to study questions of public importance by arranging seminars and discussions among members of this group at national and international level.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2 and 4 only

11. Consider the following statements:

1. The Council of ministers may not cease to hold office even after the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.
2. The dissolution of Lok Sabha by the President can be challenged in the Supreme Court of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

12. Consider the following statements:

1. A Member of Parliament can address the House in his or her mother-tongue after taking permission from the presiding officer of the House.
2. Both Hindi and English can be the languages for transacting business in the Parliament.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

13. Consider the following pairs with reference to Parliamentary committees & its features:

Parliamentary committee	Description/Feature
1. Estimates committee	Do not have representation from Rajya Sabha.
2. Committee on public undertakings	Setup on the recommendations of Krishna Menon committee
3. General purpose committee	advises on matters that do not appropriately fall within the jurisdiction of any other parliamentary committee
4. Business Advisory committee	Regulates the program and timetable of the House

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

14. Point of order is one of the devices used in parliamentary proceedings. In this context consider the following statements about 'Point of Order:
1. It relates to the interpretation or enforcement of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the House of Parliament.
2. A Debate of minimum duration of two hours is held on a point of order.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

15. Consider the following statements about 'Leader of the Opposition' (LoP) in the Houses of Indian Parliament:
1. Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977 mandates for a party to secure at least ten percent of the total seats in a House, for one of its members to be officially recognized as Leader of Opposition in that House.
2. The Leader of the Opposition is entitled to receive a salary, allowances, and other facilities equivalent to those of a cabinet minister.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

16. With reference to Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, 2023 i.e. the Constitution (One Hundred and Sixth Amendment) Act, 2023, consider the following statements:
1. It seeks to reserve 33% of the total number of seats for women in both Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha.
2. It will be implemented after the next census and the subsequent delimitation exercise.
3. Seats will be reserved, according to their respective population, for Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST) and Other Backward Classes (OBC) women under this act.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

17. With reference to the adjournment motion and censure motion in parliamentary functioning of India, consider the following statements:
1. Both the motions need to state the reason for their introduction clearly.
2. While passing a censure motion will lead to the resignation of the Council of Ministers, no such consequence follows the passing of adjournment motion.
3. Both the motions are mentioned in the constitution of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None

18. With reference to Indian Polity, consider the following statements regarding the present status of 'Privileges and Powers of Parliamentarians':

1. Parliamentary privileges are special rights and immunities granted to Members of Parliament (MPs) to ensure their effective functioning.
2. Parliamentary privileges grants MPs an absolute freedom to speak anything during the parliamentary proceedings.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

19. With reference to the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. The Deputy Speaker is nominated by the Speaker from among the members.
2. The salaries and allowances of the Deputy Speaker are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
3. The join sitting of the Parliament is presided over by the Deputy Speaker in the absence of Speaker of Lok Sabha.
4. The Deputy Speaker is required to submits his/her resignation to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 3 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

20. Rajya Sabha has the representation of the States and the certain Union Territories (UTs). In this context consider the following Union Territories (UTs):

1. Delhi
2. Puducherry
3. Jammu and Kashmir
4. Chandigarh
5. Ladakh

How many UTs mentioned above have representation in Rajya Sabha at present?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

21. Consider the following situations:

1. During the proclamation of National Emergency under Article 352.
2. When two or more states make a request under Article 252.
3. During the President's Rule under Article 356.
4. To Implement International Agreements under Article 253.

In how many of the above situations can the Union legislate on the subjects mentioned in the state list?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

22. Consider the following statements:

Statement – I: A person from Anglo Indian Community is no longer nominated in the Lok Sabha.

Statement – II: The term Anglo Indian is defined in the Indian Constitution.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement – I and Statement – II are correct and Statement – II is the correct explanation for Statement – I
(b) Both Statement – I and Statement – II are correct and Statement – II is not the correct explanation for Statement – I
(c) Statement is correct but Statement – II is incorrect
(d) Statement – I is incorrect but Statement – II is correct

23. With reference to the Rajya Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. Both the elected as well as nominated members of the State Legislative Assemblies participate in the elections of the members of Rajya Sabha.
2. The Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of India provides for allocation of seats to the states in Rajya Sabha.
3. As per the Constitution of India, the President nominates two members to the Rajya Sabha from the Anglo-Indian Community.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

24. Which of the following statements is *incorrect* regarding the Money Bill in Indian Parliament?

(a) The President is constitutionally bound to give his/her assent to a Money Bill once passed by both the Houses of Parliament.
(b) It can be introduced in the Parliament only by a Minister.
(c) The Speaker of Lok Sabha decides whether a bill is a Money bill or not.
(d) A Bill shall not be deemed to be a Money Bill by reason only that it provides for the imposition of fines.

25. Consider the following statements about Private Member's Bill as introduced in the Parliament:

1. It refers only to a bill initiated by a member of the Parliament who is not a member of the ruling party/coalition.
2. Unlike the government bill, which does not require any prior notice, a private member's bill must be introduced with a prior notice of 7 days.
3. No private member bill has been passed by the Indian Parliament since 1970.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2
(b) 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1 and 3

26. Article 249 empowers the Parliament to make laws on matters listed in the State List after passage of a resolution by the Rajya Sabha. In this context, which of the statements given below is/are correct regarding this resolution?

1. The resolution must be passed by not less than two-thirds of the members in the Rajya Sabha present and voting.
2. Laws enacted through such resolutions continue indefinitely, unless they are repealed by the state legislatures.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

27. If a bill that only provides for imposition of a new type of tax, is introduced in the Parliament, then which of the following could follow?

(a) The Bill can be rejected only by the Lok Sabha
(b) The Bill can be rejected only by the Rajya Sabha
(c) The Bill can be rejected either by the Lok Sabha or by the Rajya Sabha
(d) The Bill can neither be rejected by the Lok Sabha nor by the Rajya Sabha

28. Which of the following judicial functions are performed by the Parliament of India?

1. Electing the President of India
2. Appointment of the judges of the Supreme Court
3. Impeachment of the President of India
4. Passing the resolution for the removal of the Vice-President of India
5. Passing a Constitutional Amendment Bill

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 3 and 4 only
(b) 1, 3 and 5 only
(c) 3, 4 and 5 only
(d) 1, 2 and 4 only

29. Consider the following statements about the Joint Parliamentary Committees (JPC) of the Parliament:

1. These are generally ad-hoc in nature.
2. They are set up by a motion passed in one House of the Parliament and agreed to by the other House.
3. As per the convention, they consist of an equal number of members from both the houses of the Parliament.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3
(c) 1 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

30. With reference to *Zero Hour* in the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:

1. It is not mentioned in the Constitution of India or the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business of either house of Parliament.
2. It is compulsory for ministers to provide a reply to any matter of urgent public importance raised during the Zero Hour.
3. The presiding officer of the houses have the discretion to decide which matters can be raised during the Zero Hour.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

31. With reference to a No-Confidence Motion in the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:
1. It can only be moved in the Lok Sabha and not in the Rajya Sabha.
2. It can be moved only against the Council of Ministers as a whole, and not against an individual Minister.
3. A No-Confidence Motion, once defeated, cannot be moved in the same session of the Parliament.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

32. With reference to the powers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha in the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:
1. Both of them have equal powers in amending the Constitution.
2. Rajya Sabha has special powers under Article 249 to authorize Parliament to legislate on matters in the State List of Seventh Schedule.
3. Only the Rajya Sabha can initiate the procedure for the removal of the Vice President of India.
4. Both Houses have equal authority in matters related to the approval of annual Budget.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2, and 3
(c) 1, 2, and 4
(d) 2, 3, and 4

33. With reference to Rajya Sabha, consider the following statements:
1. The members of Rajya Sabha are elected by the residents of the respective state.
2. The allocation of seats for each state in the Rajya Sabha is mentioned in the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution.
3. Every Indian State has a right to elect a minimum of two representatives to the Rajya Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3
(c) 1 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

34. Consider the following statements relating to short notice questions asked in the Legislature:
1. These relate to matters of urgent public importance and can be asked for oral answer at a notice less than 10 days.
2. They can be admissible if the Minister concerned agrees to answer to it.
3. They are asked during question hour.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

35. In context of the powers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, consider the following statements:
1. Both houses have equal powers in matters related to Constitutional Amendment.
2. Both houses have equal powers in matters related to the removal of the Vice-President of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

36. A Joint Session of Parliament can be called for which of the following types of bills?
1. Money bills
2. Ordinary bills
3. Financial bills under Article 117 (1) of the Constitution
4. Constitutional Amendment bills under Article 368

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 2 only

37. Which of the following statements is correct regarding the powers of Rajya Sabha, in relation to money bills?

(a) Rajya Sabha cannot suggest amendments to money bills.
(b) Rajya Sabha has the power only to delay money bills for up to 14 days but it cannot reject them.
(c) The role of Rajya Sabha in the passage of money bills is similar to its role in the passage of ordinary bills.
(d) Money Bills can be introduced either in the Lok Sabha or in the Rajya Sabha.

38. Consider the following statements regarding Parliamentary Committees in India:

1. The Constitution mandates every bill introduced in the Parliament to be referred to any of the Parliamentary Committees for detailed scrutiny.
2. Department Related Standing Committees (DRSCs) are the final authority to approve the budget demands of the respective government departments.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

39. Which of the following statements regarding the 'casting vote' in the Parliament is/are correct?

1. It is cast by the speaker or a person acting as such.
2. It is cast in addition to voting in the first instance.
3. It is cast in the case of equality of votes.
4. It is always cast to maintain the status quo.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 3 only

40. With reference to the Parliament of India, consider the following

1. Lok Sabha
2. Rajya Sabha
3. Council of Ministers
4. The President of India
5. Attorney General of India

How many of the above are integral part of the Parliament of India?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

41. Consider the following options with regard to the nominated members of Rajya Sabha:

1. Art
2. Science
3. Social Service
4. Literature
5. Administration

How many of the above field experiences are mentioned in the Constitution for the nomination of members to Rajya Sabha?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

42. Consider the following groups:

1. Scheduled Caste
2. Scheduled Tribes
3. Backward classes
4. Anglo-Indians

How many of the above are provided reservation of seats in Lok Sabha?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

43. Consider the following statements:

1. Since independence, the 2014 Lok Sabha elections witnessed the highest voter turnout.
2. Since independence, women representation is highest in the current Lok Sabha having one by fourth of total members.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

44. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: The Constitution of India provides for asymmetrical representation of states in Rajya Sabha.

Statement II: The representation of a state in Rajya Sabha is independent of the population of the state.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation of Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation of Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

45. Consider the following statements with reference to the Lok Sabha in India:

Statement I: Some functions, such as enacting a money bill and a no-confidence motion, are solely performed by the Lok Sabha and not by the Rajya Sabha.

Statement II: The Lok Sabha is directly elected by the people of India.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation of Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation of Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

46. A member giving notice of a resolution for removal of Speaker of Lok Sabha should be addressed to the:

(a) Deputy Speaker, Lok Sabha
(b) Secretary General, Lok Sabha
(c) Prime Minister
(d) President

47. Arrange the following stages in the correct order of the passing of an ordinary bill in the Parliament:

1. Consideration Stage
2. Stage of General Discussion
3. Third Reading
4. Assent of the President
5. Publication of the bill in the Gazette

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

(a) 1-2-3-4-5
(b) 2-1-3-4-5
(c) 5-2-1-3-4
(d) 5-1-2-3-4

48. Consider the following pairs regarding various grants made by the Parliament:

Grants	Purpose/objective
1. Supplementary Grant	Granted for additional expenditure upon some new service not contemplated in the budget for that year.
2. Token Grant	Granted when funds to meet the proposed expenditure on a new service can be made available by reappropriation.
3. Vote of credit	Granted for meeting an unexpected demand upon the resources of India and is like a blank cheque given to the executive by Lok Sabha.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only One
(b) Only Two
(c) All Three
(d) None

49. With reference to Indian Polity, 'Rule 267 of the Rajya Sabha', recently seen in news, deals with-

(a) suspension of the pre-decided agenda of the Rajya Sabha.
(b) reduction in the limit of the number of questions for oral answers in Rajya Sabha.
(c) suspension of the member who willfully abuses the rules of the Rajya Sabha.
(d) power of Chairman to adjourn the Rajya Sabha if he thinks it necessary to do so.

50. With reference to the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament, consider the following statements:

1. It examines the estimates included in the Annual Financial Statement.
2. It consists of members from both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

3. The chairman of the committee is appointed by the President of India.
4. Its recommendations are binding on the Ministers.

Which of the statements given above are ***incorrect?***

(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

51. Consider the following conditions:

1. Initiating a No-confidence Motion.
2. Voting for election to the President of India.
3. Ratification of Constitutional amendment bill.
4. Enlargement of the jurisdiction of the State Public Service Commission.

The position of the State Legislative Council is equivalent to that of the State Legislative Assembly in how many of the above cases?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

52. With reference to 'Money Bills' in the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:

1. It can be introduced only by a minister.
2. It can be introduced for payment into or withdrawal of money from Contingency Fund of India
3. The President of India cannot withhold his/ her assent to the money bill.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

53. Consider the following statements regarding the Speaker of Lok Sabha:

1. The date of election of the speaker is decided by the Speaker Protem.
2. The speaker vacates the office if he/she ceases to be a member of Lok Sabha.
3. S/he may be removed from the office by a resolution of the Lok Sabha, passed by a majority of all the then members of the Lok Sabha.
4. S/he must vacate the office immediately if the Lok Sabha dissolves.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

54. The working of Parliament is carried out through multiple ways. In this regard, consider the following:

1. Adjournment of session of Lok Sabha, while a bill is pending before it.
2. Adjournment sine dei of a session of Lok Sabha, while a bill is pending before it.
3. Prorogation of a session of Lok Sabha, while a bill is pending before it.
4. Dissolution of Lok Sabha, while a bill is pending before it.

How many of the above can lead to the lapsing of the bills pending before Parliament?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

55. Consider the following statements regarding the Zero Hour and Question hour in Parliamentary proceeding in India:

1. Unlike zero-hour, question hour is mentioned in the parliamentary rules of procedure.
2. During the question hour, questions can be asked only to the ministers, but during zero hour, questions can be asked to both private members and ministers.
3. The question hour starts immediately after the zero hour and lasts until the agenda for the day is taken up.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None

56. With reference to 'Suspension of Members from Lok Sabha', consider the following statements:

1. They can be suspended without passing a motion for suspension by Lok Sabha.
2. Suspended members cannot attend meetings of Committees of Lok Sabha, in which he/she has been named as a member.

3. A member can be suspended for a maximum of two consecutive sessions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1 only

57. Consider the following 'Cabinet Committees':
1. Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs
2. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
3. Cabinet Committee on Accommodation
4. Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth
5. Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs

How many of the above-mentioned 'Cabinet Committees' are currently headed by the Prime Minister of India?
(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

58. With reference to Parliamentary privileges, consider the following statements:
1. It extends to the Solicitor General of India.
2. No criminal proceedings can be initiated against the members of Parliament within a House of Parliament without the permission of the presiding officer of the House.
3. Members of Parliament are immune from legal action for speeches made inside or outside the Parliament.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 3 only

59. With reference to the Parliament and the State legislature, consider the following statements:
1. Provisions of Joint sitting are applicable only for Union Parliament and not for State legislature.
2. The Constitutional Amendment Bill can be introduced only in Parliament and not in the State Legislature.
3. An Ordinary Bill can be initiated in either house of the Parliament whereas, in the case of the state legislature, an ordinary bill can only be initiated in the Legislative Assembly of the state.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3 only

60. From which of the following acts did the institutions of speaker and deputy speaker originate?
(a) Charter Act of 1833
(b) Government of India Act of 1909 (Morley-Minto reforms)
(c) Government of India Act of 1919 (Montague-Chelmsford Reforms)
(d) Government of India act 1935

61. Consider the following statements regarding Parliamentary Forums in India:
1. It traces its origin to the Government of India Act 1935.
2. The chairman of Rajya Sabha is the ex-officio President of all the Forums.
3. These forums aim to work as a connecting bridge between the Members of Parliament and the general public.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

62. In the context of India, which of the following best describes the theory of "Collective Ministerial Responsibility"?
(a) The Ministers are directly responsible to the People of India.
(b) The Council of Ministers is responsible to the House of the People.
(c) The Council of Ministers is responsible only to the Head of the State.
(d) The Ministers are responsible only for their own actions, and not for the actions of entire Cabinet.

63. With reference to representation of Union Territories in Rajya Sabha, which of the following statements is/are correct?
1. The representatives of a union territory in the Rajya Sabha are indirectly elected by members of an electoral college specially constituted for this purpose.

2. The system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote is used for election of members to Rajya Sabha from Union Territories.
3. Only Delhi and Puducherry have representation in Rajya Sabha.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

64. A person elected as a member of Parliament can be disqualified under which of the following circumstances?
1. if he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a court.
2. If he is convicted for promoting enmity between different groups.
3. if he is an undischarged insolvent.
4. If he has voluntarily acquired the citizenship of a foreign State.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

65. With reference to the Panel of Chairpersons of Lok Sabha, which of the following statements are correct?
1. The Speaker nominates a Panel of Chairpersons from amongst the members of the Lok Sabha.
2. A Minister cannot be a member of a panel of Chairpersons.
3. The Key task of the panel of Chairpersons is to preside over the House when the office of the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker is vacant.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

66. With reference to the Parliament of India, consider the following statements:
1. Each House of the Parliament has separate secretarial staff of its own, though there can be some common posts to both the Houses.
2. The Secretary-General of each House of the Parliament is appointed by the President of India.
3. The tenure of Secretary-General of Lok Sabha is co-terminus with the life of the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

67. The words "Adjournment" and "Prorogation" are used frequently during Parliamentary sessions. With reference to them, which of the following statements is/ are correct?
1. Adjournment is done by the President of India, whereas Prorogation is done by the presiding officer of the House.
2. Adjournment not only terminates a sitting but also a session of the House, whereas Prorogation only terminates a sitting and not a session of the House.
3. Both Adjournment and Prorogation do not affect the bills pending before the House.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

68. With reference to the Speaker of Lok Sabha, which of the following statements are correct?
1. S/he can resign by writing to the President of India.
2. When a resolution for the removal of the Speaker is under consideration of the House, s/he can preside at the sitting of the House but cannot vote.
3. S/he is the final interpreter of the provisions of the Constitution of India within the House.
4. S/he is placed along with the Chief Justice of India in the Order of Precedence.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 3 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

69. Consider the following statements with reference to readjustment of seats in Parliament:

1. The orders issued by delimitation commission regarding readjustments of seats cannot be challenged in a court once they are published in the Gazette of India.
2. Present distribution of seats in Parliament, to states, is based on the 2011 census.
3. The Election Commission is empowered to identify seats which are to be reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Parliament.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

70. With reference to qualifications for being a Member of the Parliament, consider the following statements:

1. He must be registered as a voter from a parliamentary constituency.
2. He must be not less than 30 years of age in case of the Rajya Sabha and not less than 25 years of age in case of the Lok Sabha.
3. He must be a member of a scheduled caste or scheduled tribe in any state or union territory, if he wants to contest a seat reserved for them.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

71. With reference to various motions in the Parliamentary proceedings in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Privilege Motion is concerned with the breach of parliamentary privileges by a Minister.
2. No-Confidence Motion can only be moved against the entire council of ministers, and not against an individual minister.
3. Passing of Calling Attention Motion in the Lok Sabha will always lead to the resignation of the Council of Ministers.
4. Adjournment motion can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 3 and 4 only

72. With reference to Money Bill and Ordinary Bill, consider the following statements:

1. Ordinary bills can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member of the house, whereas Money bill can be introduced only by a minister.
2. Unlike the Ordinary bill, Money bill requires the certification of the Speaker when transmitted to the Rajya Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

73. Which of the following expenses comes under the category of 'charged' expenditure on the 'Consolidated Fund of India'?

1. Emoluments and allowances of the President
2. Pensions of Judges of High Courts
3. Salary of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India
4. Administrative expenses of Union Public Service Commission
5. Expenses incurred by the office of Attorney General of India

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1, 3 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 3 and 5 only
(d) 2 and 4 only

74. With reference to 'Indian Polity', consider the following pairs:

Parliamentary Grants	Circumstances for approval of the grant
1. Excess Grant	Meeting an unexpected demand upon the resources of India
2. Additional Grant	Additional expenditure upon some new service
3. Vote of Credit	To satisfy the debt obligations of the Indian government

How many of the above given pairs are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

75. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Rajya Sabha needs to pass a resolution with a special majority to enable the Parliament to enact laws enumerated in the 'State List' of Schedule-VII.

Statement-II: The primary purpose of Rajya Sabha is to safeguard the interest of the States in the Indian federal system.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

76. Consider the following pairs regarding Closure Motion:

Types of Closure Motion	Description
1. Simple Closure	a member moves it when the 'matter having been sufficiently discussed be now put to vote'
2. Closure by Compartments	clauses of a bill or a lengthy resolution are grouped into parts before the debate and the entire part is put to vote
3. Guillotine Closure	only important clauses are taken up for debate and voting and the intervening clauses are taken as passed.
4. Kangaroo Closure	undiscussed clauses of a bill or a resolution are also put to vote along with the discussed ones

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

77. Which of the following are the judicial powers and functions performed by Parliament of India?
1. Removing of the Vice-President from his office
2. Amending the Constitution by repealing any provision
3. Punishing outsiders for contempt of the house
4. Recommending removal of Chief Election Commissioner
5. Scrutinising government spending and financial performance

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
(a) 1 and 5 only
(b) 2, 4 and 5 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only

78. With reference to 'Parliamentary Privileges', consider the following statements:
1. The privilege of Freedom of speech in Parliament is mentioned under Article 105 of the Indian constitution.
2. The Parliamentary privileges are extended to both the President and the Attorney General of India.
3. At present, there is no special law in India to exhaustively codify all the Parliamentary privileges.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

79. With reference to 'Powers of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha', consider the following statements:
1. The Lok Sabha alone can recommend to the President for the removal of the judges of the Supreme Court.
2. Both Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha can pass a resolution for the discontinuance of the national emergency.
3. Rajya Sabha can authorize the Parliament to create a new All-India Service.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

80. Consider the following statements:
1. The first No Confidence Motion in India's Parliament was moved in 1968 against the Indira Gandhi led government.
2. For the first time, Departmentally-Related Standing Committees were created in 2004 to assist Parliament in its legislative and financial business.
3. The time spent by Lok Sabha on discussing the Union Budget has been continuously decreasing since the 1990s.

Which of the statements given above is/are ***incorrect***?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

81. Consider the following description:

"This Committee was constituted on the recommendation of John Mathai. All its members are from Lok Sabha only. Based on its functions, it is also described as a 'continuous economy committee'."

Which of the following options best suits the above description?
(a) Public Accounts Committee
(b) Estimates Committee
(c) Committee on Public Undertakings
(d) Committee on Privileges

82. In the context of Indian Parliament, which of the following statements regarding 'Adjournment' and 'Prorogation' is/ are correct?
1. Both Adjournment as well as Prorogation are declared only by the Presiding Officers of the respective House.
2. Adjournment may signify temporary suspension of the day's proceedings whereas, prorogation signifies the dissolution of Lok Sabha.

Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

83. Which of the following signify/signifies the requirement for the Parliament in India?
1. It acts as the Centre of all democratic processes in the country.
2. It forms a very basis of representative democracy.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

84. Consider the following statements regarding the Chairman of Rajya Sabha and the Speaker of Lok Sabha:
1. Members of both the Houses of Parliament participate in the election process of the Chairman of Rajya Sabha whereas only Lok Sabha members participate in the election of the Speaker.
2. Salaries and allowances of the Chairman of Rajya Sabha and the Speaker of Lok Sabha are decided based on their ranks in the 'table of precedence'.
3. Unlike the Speaker of Lok Sabha, the Chairman of Rajya Sabha cannot vote in the first instance when a resolution for his/her removal is under consideration.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

85. For the removal of the Vice President of India, the Rajya Sabha needs to pass a motion by 'effective majority', which is to be agreed by the Lok Sabha by a 'simple majority'. In this context, what is the meaning of 'effective majority'?
(a) A majority of more than 50% of the members present and voting.
(b) A majority of more than 50% of the total strength of the House.
(c) A majority of more than 2/3rd of the total strength of the House
(d) A majority of more than 50% of strength of the House, excluding vacancies.

86. Consider the following statements with reference to Parliamentary procedures:
1. Unlike Rajya Sabha Chairman, the Lok Sabha Speaker can suspend a member of the House.

2. A House of Parliament can terminate the suspension of a member by passing a motion.
3. A member can be suspended from the House, at the maximum, for the remainder of the session only.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3 only

87. Consider the following statements regarding the office of Whip in the Indian parliamentary system:
1. Only National Political parties are authorized to have a Whip in the house.
2. A Whip's job is to serve as an assistant floor leader for the political party.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

88. "A member uses this device when the proceedings of the House do not follow the normal rules of procedure. It should relate to the interpretation or enforcement of the Rules of the House or such articles of the Constitution that regulate the business of the House and should raise a question that is within the cognizance of the Speaker".

Which one of the following parliamentary instruments is correctly described in the above paragraph?
(a) Censure Motion
(b) Point of Order
(c) No-Confidence Motion
(d) Special Mention

89. In the context of Individual Privileges enjoyed by the Members of Parliament, consider the following statements:
1. They cannot be arrested for civil or criminal cases during the session of Parliament.
2. They can refuse to appear as a witness in a court case when Parliament is in session.
3. S/he cannot be held liable in any court for anything said by him/her in a Parliamentary committee.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

90. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Lok Sabha exercises greater control over the executive compared to the Rajya Sabha.

Statement-II: The Adjournment Motion can only be introduced and passed in the Lok Sabha.

Statement-III: As per the Constitution of India, the total strength of Lok Sabha is greater than the total strength of Rajya Sabha.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct and both of them explain Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, but only one of them explains Statement-I
(c) Only one of the Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement-I
(d) Neither Statement-II nor Statement-III is correct

91. As per the Constitution of India, the resignation of the Speaker of Lok Sabha from his/her office is addressed to-
(a) The President of India
(b) The Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha
(c) The Vice-President of India
(d) The Prime Minister of India

92. With reference to Question Hour in the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:
1. The first hour of every sitting in both the Houses of Parliament is always the 'Question Hour'.
2. All questions asked during the Question Hour must be answered orally.
3. During the Question Hour, questions can be asked to both ministers and private members.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

93. With reference to Parliament of India, which of the following provisions determines that the term of office for an elected member of the Rajya Sabha as six years?

(a) Constitution of India
(b) Representation of the People Act, 1951
(c) Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Rajya Sabha
(d) The Presidential Orders

94. Which among the following group of states/ Union Territories has only one seat in the Lok Sabha?

(a) Goa, Lakshadweep, Nagaland
(b) Manipur, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Puducherry
(c) Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Lakshadweep
(d) Chandigarh, Sikkim, Mizoram

95. With reference to Members of Parliament (MPs), consider the following statements:

1. The salaries and allowances of the MPs are determined by the President of India.
2. Every individual who has served as an MP is entitled to receive a pension regardless of the duration of their tenure.
3. MPs are entitled to a daily allowance for their entire tenure.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

96. With reference to the Indian Parliament, the Secretary general of Lok Sabha is appointed by?

(a) Prime Minister of India
(b) Speaker of Lok Sabha
(c) President of India
(d) Cabinet Committee of Parliamentary affairs

97. With reference to Indian Parliament, consider the following information:

Action	Done by	Effects
1. Adjournment of the house	Presiding officer of the respective House	No impact on bills and business resumes when House meets again.
2. Prorogation of session of Parliament	Leader of the house	Ends the session and all pending notices except notices for introduction of a bill become null.
3. Dissolution of Lok Sabha	President of India	Ends the term of the Lok Sabha; all pending bills in Lok Sabha lapse (subject to the provision of Article 108 of the Constitution of India).

How many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

98. Consider the following statements regarding the Motion of Thanks in Indian Parliament:

1. It is a parliamentary tradition aimed at expressing gratitude for the President's Address at commencement of the first session after each general election to the House of the People and at the commencement of the first parliamentary session of each year.
2. Failure to pass the Motion of Thanks in either House of the Parliament amounts to the defeat of the government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

99. What will happen if the President summons for the joint session of Parliament and in the meantime, Lok Sabha is dissolved?

(a) Joint session will be held in scheduled time
(b) Joint session will be cancelled
(c) Joint session will be held after composition of New Lok Sabha
(d) Bill will be lapsed

100. With reference to the "Office of Profit" in India, consider the following statements:

1. The term "Office of Profit" is explicitly defined in the Constitution of India.
2. Holding an office of profit under the government disqualifies a person from being a member of Parliament or a State Legislature.
3. The decision of whether a particular office is an "office of profit" ultimately rests with the Election Commission of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, and 3

101. With reference to the Leader of Opposition (LoP) in Parliament of India, consider the following statements:

1. It is a Constitutional post.
2. A political party must secure at least 10% of the total seats in the House to claim the position of Leader of Opposition as mandated by the Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977.
3. The Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha enjoys the status of a Cabinet Minister.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2
(b) 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 2 and 3

102. In India, which of the following elections is conducted using the "Open ballot system"?

(a) Elections to the Rajya Sabha
(b) Elections to the President of India
(c) Elections to the Vice-President of India
(d) None of the Above

103. Consider the following statements regarding the Speaker Pro Tem of Lok Sabha:

1. S/he is elected by the members of the house in its first meeting after the general elections.
2. His/her primary role is to administer oaths to newly elected Members of Parliament (MPs) of the house.
3. S/he holds office until the new Speaker to the house is elected.
4. S/he fixes the date for the election of the Speaker of house.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2
(b) 2 and 4
(c) 1 and 3
(d) 2 and 3

104. With reference to comparison between Parliamentary and Presidential system of Government, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Post Independence, India adopted Parliamentary system of government rather than Presidential system of government.

Statement-II: Unlike in a Parliamentary system, in a Presidential system the President serves as the head of the state and government.

Statement-III: In a Parliamentary system of government, the Executive is directly accountable to the legislature.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, and both of them explain Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, but only one of them explains Statement-I.
(c) Only one of the Statement-II and Statement-III is correct and that explains the Statement-I.
(d) Neither Statement-II nor Statement-III is correct.

105. With reference to the powers and functions of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, consider the following statements:

1. S/he is the Leader of the House in Lok Sabha.
2. When the Lok Sabha is dissolved, s/he continues to hold the office until immediately before the first meeting of the newly elected Lok Sabha.
3. S/he is the final authority in deciding disqualification of a Member of Parliament under the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

Which of the statements given above is/are ***incorrect***?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

106. With reference to the Office of Profit in the Indian political system, consider the following statements:

1. The term "Office of Profit" is defined in the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
2. Only Parliament, not the state legislatures, can make laws to exempt certain offices from the purview of the office of profit.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

107. In the context of Indian Parliament, consider the following information:

Term	Meaning	Done by
1. Adjournment	Suspension of a sitting of the house for an indefinite period.	Members of the house by passing a resolution
2. Adjournment sine die	Termination of Sitting of the house for a set period of time.	Presiding officer of the house
3. Prorogation	Termination of a session of the house	President

In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

108. With reference to the Indian Parliament, consider the following statements:

1. A bill introduced and pending in the Lok Sabha, lapses on its dissolution.
2. A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha and had not yet been taken up in the Lok Sabha lapses on the dissolution of Lok Sabha.
3. A bill for which the President had notified a joint sitting lapses on the dissolution of Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3

109. Consider the following parliamentary motions:

1. Adjournment Motion
2. No-Confidence Motion
3. Privilege Motion
4. Censure Motion
5. Cut Motion
6. Motion of Thanks

How many of the above motions can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha?

(a) Only three
(b) Only four
(c) Only five
(d) All six

110. With reference to parliamentary proceedings in India,consider the following pairs:

Parliamentary device	Feature
1. Special Mention	It allows members to bring important public matters to the attention of the House.
2. Point of Order	It is raised by the member of a ruling party when the opposition member disregards the authority of the chair.
3. Naming a Member	Through this presiding officer nominates a member of the house to a parliamentary committee.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

111. With reference to the Anglo-Indians, consider the following statements:

1. The term 'Anglo-Indian' is defined in the Indian Constitution
2. The original Indian Constitution of 1950 provided for the reservation for Anglo-Indians in Lok Sabha.
3. The 104th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2020 discontinued the reservation of Anglo-Indians in the Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

112. Consider the following description:

Each House of Parliament has a committee that gives due respect to the opinion of the citizens and provides a forum for the citizens to secure redress against acts of injustice committed by any public authority. This committee examines petitions submitted by individuals or groups on matters primarily related to the provisions of the Union List that affect them.

Which of the following committees of Parliament best matches the description given above?

(a) Committees to Scrutinise and Control
(b) Committee on Petitions
(c) Committee on Government Assurances
(d) Committee on Subordinate Legislation

113. With reference to 'Delimitation Commission' in India, consider the following statements:

1. The orders of the Commission cannot be called in question before any court.
2. Modifications to orders of the Commission can only be done by the Lok Sabha and not by State Legislative Assemblies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

114. With reference to Parliamentary Committees, consider the following statements about Public Accounts Committee (PAC)

1. The members of the committee are elected from both the houses of Parliament.
2. By convention, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha serves as the chairman of the committee.
3. The committee reviews the reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, and 3

115. Consider the following statements regarding a Money Bill mentioned under Article 110 and a Financial Bill mentioned under Article 117 (1) of the Constitution of India:

1. Both these bills can be introduced only with the prior recommendation of the President of India.
2. Both these bills can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha.
3. Unlike the Money Bill, a joint sitting of Parliament can be held for deliberating and voting up on a Financial Bill mentioned under Article 117 (1) of the Constitution of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

116. Consider the following information:

Types of Majorities	Meaning	Required for
1. Simple majority	Majority in which more than half of the members present and voting support a particular decision or a Bill	Passage of financial bill
2. Effective majority	Majority which requires the support of at least half of the total membership of the House	The formation of government at the Center and the states.
3. Absolute majority	A majority surpassing 50% of all the then members of the House.	Removal of chairman of Rajya Sabha

In which of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3
(c) 1 and 2
(d) 1 and 3

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117. With reference to consultative committees, consider the following statements:

1. A minister cannot become the chairman of a Consultative committee.
2. It provides a forum for informal discussions between the ministers and the members of Parliament.
3. These committees are constituted by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

118. In context of the Indian Constitutional provisions to limit and control the power of the executive, consider the following statements:

1. The Council of Ministers can be removed by a vote of no-confidence in the Lok Sabha.
2. Executives cannot withdraw funds from the Consolidated Fund of India without the prior approval of Parliament.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 Only
(b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

6.2. State Legislature

119. Which of the following is correct about the abolition and creation of the Legislative Council in a state?

(a) As per the Constitution of India Parliament can create or abolish a Legislative Council in a state based on the recommendation of the President.
(b) The creation or abolition of a Legislative Council requires a majority of total membership of the house and a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting in each house of Parliament.
(c) The process of creating or abolishing a Legislative Council does not require a Constitutional Amendment under the provisions of Article 368.
(d) The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has a bicameral legislature.

120. The territorial constituencies for the Legislative Assembly of a state are demarcated based on the recommendations of:

(a) Election Commission of India
(b) State Election Commission
(c) Delimitation Commission
(d) President of India

121. With reference to Legislature in the States with a bicameral system, consider the following statements:

1. Both legislative assembly and legislative council have equal power in approval of ordinance issued by the Governor.
2. Unlike the members of legislative assembly, legislative council members do not participate in election of state representatives in Rajya Sabha.
3. The Ministers in State including Chief Minister of state can be member of either legislative assembly or legislative council.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

122. With reference to legislature in the states with a bicameral legislative system, consider the following statements about Legislative councils:

1. The size of the legislative council ranges from a minimum of 40 members and maximum of 250 members.
2. One third of the members of the council are elected by the members of the legislative assembly of the state from amongst persons who are not members of the Assembly.
3. One sixth of the members of the council are nominated by the Governor of the state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

123. In India some State have bicameral legislature while some are unicameral. In this context consider the following States:

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Maharashtra

3. Tamil Nadu
4. Madhya Pradesh
5. Karnataka

How many of the States given above have Bicameral Legislature?
(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

124. With reference to the State Legislative Council, consider the following statements:
1. The chairman of a State Legislative Council is elected by its members.
2. One-third of the total members of the Council are directly elected by the people of the state.
3. The maximum strength of a State Legislative Council cannot exceed one-fourth of the total strength of the State Legislative Assembly of the respective state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 only
(d) None of the above

125. With reference to Rajya Sabha/Council of States in India, consider the following statements:
1. Elections to the Rajya Sabha are held through an open ballot system.
2. The specific term of Rajya Sabha members is not mentioned in the Indian Constitution.
3. Unlike the Lok Sabha, the Rajya Sabha is not subjected to dissolution by the President of India.
4. Unlike in the Lok Sabha, there is no provision for reservation of seats for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled tribe in the Rajya Sabha.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 4 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

126. With reference to the State Legislative Councils in India, consider the following statements:
1. A bill to create a Legislative Council in a state must be introduced only in the Rajya Sabha.
2. A law enacted by Parliament to create a Legislative Council in a state is deemed to be an amendment to the Constitution under Article 368 of the Constitution.
3. Among the Indian states, presently only six states have Legislative councils.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 3
(c) 3 only
(d) 1 and 2

127. For the Assertions (A) and Reasons (R), choose the correct alternative:

Assertion (A): Agitation for preservation of language does not lead to the disqualification of membership of a State Legislature.

Reason (R): Article 30 of Indian Constitution grants a citizen the fundamental right to preserve language as a part of their identity.

Which of the following options is correct?
(a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
(c) A is true but R is false.
(d) A is false but R is true.

128. Consider the following categories of people:
1. Members of district boards
2. Persons who have been a teachers in primary school for at least three years
3. Elected Members of Legislative Assemblies
4. Members of municipalities

How many of the above categories of the people residing in a particular state form part of the electorate for electing the members of that State Legislative council?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

129. Consider the following:
1. Participation in the election of President.
2. Ratification of a Constitutional Amendment Bill.
3. Enlargement of jurisdiction of a State Public Service Commission (PSC).

4. Approval of ordinances issued by the Governor.
5. Introduction of ordinary bills.

In how many of the above cases, does the State Legislative assembly have the exclusive powers when compared to the State Legislative council?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

130. Consider the following statements:

When the Governor of a State reserves a Money Bill passed by the State Legislature for the assent of the President:

1. The President can give his assent to the bill
2. The President can withhold his assent to the bill
3. The President can return the money bill for the reconsideration of the State Legislature.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

131. Which of the following are among the participants to elect the members to the 'Legislative Council' of a State?

1. Members of local bodies in the State.
2. All graduates of three years standing and residing within the State.
3. Members of the Legislative Assembly of the State.
4. Members of Lok Sabha elected from the State.
5. Members of Rajya Sabha nominated from the State.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 4 and 5 only
(c) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
(d) 1, 3, 4 and 5 only

132. In the context of India, when a State legislative bill is sent to Governor for his/her assent, s/he may reserve the bill for the consideration of the President. In this regard consider the following statements:

1. In case of money bill of state legislature, the President can return the bill for reconsideration of the state legislature.
2. In case of ordinary bills, if the President has sent the bill for reconsideration and the same bill is passed again by the state legislature it becomes mandatory for the President to give his/her assent to the bill.
3. According to the Constitution, it is obligatory on the part of the Governor to reserve a bill for consideration of the President, if it is opposed to the provisions of the Directive principles of State Policy.

Which of the statements given above are ***incorrect***?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

133. Consider the following statements:

The Constitution of India provides that-

1. The Legislative Assembly of each State shall consist of not more than 450 members chosen by direct election from territorial constituencies in the State.
2. A person shall not be qualified to be chosen to fill a seat in the Legislative Assembly of a State if he/she is less than 25 years of age.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither nor 2

134. With reference to State Legislatures in India, consider the following statements:

1. There is no upper limit on the reservation for SCs and STs in the State Legislatures.
2. The reservation for Anglo Indians in State Legislatures has been discontinued.
3. The maximum size of a Legislative Council is linked to the strength of the Legislative Assembly.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

135. Which of the following statements are correct with respect to the role of state legislatures in deciding the location of the capital city of the State concerned?

1. Article 3 of the constitution empowers state legislatures to decide their location of capital.
2. Matters related to establishing the capital of new states are covered under the State List in the Seventh schedule of the constitution.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

136. Which of the following statements rightly describes the power of the State Legislative Council (SLC) over matters other than money bills?

(a) No ordinary bill can be introduced in the State Legislative Council.
(b) The SLC can delay an ordinary bill, introduced in the Legislative Assembly, for a maximum period of 4 months.
(c) While SLC can approve the ordinary bills passed by the legislative assembly, they have no power to approve ordinances passed by the Governor.
(d) They have no power over enlarging the jurisdiction of the State Public Service Commission (SPSC).

137. In context of the President's powers over different kinds of bills passed by State legislatures, consider the following statements:

1. The President cannot return the money bill for reconsideration of State legislatures.
2. It is mandatory for the President to give his/her assent to the ordinary bill presented for his/her assent for a second time by State legislatures.
3. The President's prior consent is mandatory to introduce a bill which seeks to curtail the jurisdiction and powers of the high court as specified in the Constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

138. With reference to the Speaker of State Legislative Assembly, consider the following statements:

1. He/she decides whether the bill is a money bill or not.
2. The Governor can prorogue the session of the house only with the approval of the Speaker.
3. He/she is the final authority to decide on matters related to defection and his/her decision cannot be reviewed by the Judiciary.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

139. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to the fate of bills on dissolution of the state legislative assembly?

1. A bill passed by the council but pending in the assembly lapses.
2. A bill pending assent of the Governor lapses, but a bill pending assent of the President does not lapse.
3. A bill passed by the assembly but pending in the council does not lapse.
4. A bill passed by both assembly and council, but returned by the President for reconsideration of the house does not lapse.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1,2 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

140. In context of the Individual Privileges vested in the members of State legislatures by the Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. No members of the State legislature can be arrested during the session of legislature, even on account of criminal charges.
2. Unlike freedom of Speech granted by Article 19 of the constitution, freedom of speech granted to them is absolute.
3. Members of legislatures can refuse to appear as witnesses in a case pending in court when the state legislature is in session.

ForumIAS

Which of the statement/s given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1,2 and 3

141. With reference to Indian Polity, which of the following statements are correct with respect to "Quorum"?

1. The word 'quorum' is not mentioned in the Constitution of India.
2. The Quorum of the State legislature requires a minimum strength of 50 members.
3. It is the duty of the Speaker to adjourn the house or suspend the meeting until there is a quorum.
4. The provision regarding Quorum in Parliament can be amended by simple majority of Parliament.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 3 and 4 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 4 only

142. Consider the following statements:

1. Advocate General of a state has the right to speak and take part in the proceedings of any legislative committees of which he/she is named a member.
2. State Ministers have a right to vote in the proceedings of a house of which he/she is not a member.
3. Only Minster can introduce money bills in the State Legislative Assembly.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

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SOLUTIONS

6.1. Parliament

1. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The representatives of states in **the Rajya Sabha** are elected by the elected members of state legislative assemblies. The election is held in accordance with the **system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.** The seats are allotted to the states in the Rajya Sabha on the basis of population.

Statement 1 is correct. The Supreme Court judgements in the case of Kuldip Nayar v Union of India has clarified that an elected MLA would not face any disqualification from the Membership of the House for voting in a particular manner. He may at the most attract action from the political party to which he belongs.

The Election Commission clarified in July 2017 that the provisions of the Tenth Schedule, including the **anti-defection law, are not applicable to Rajya Sabha elections.** Cross-voting in the election to the Upper House is not an area covered by the anti-defection law or the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, which laid down the process by which legislators may be disqualified on grounds of disobeying the directives of the party leadership on a vote inside the House.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Voting in the Rajya Sabha elections are by open ballot. The MLAs have to show their votes to their party's authorized agent. Showing a marked ballot to anyone other than one's own party's authorized agent will render the vote invalid. Not showing the ballot to the authorised agent will also mean that the vote cannot be counted. This open ballot voting system was introduced in 2003.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The Supreme Court does not have original jurisdiction regarding election disputes that may arise in Rajya Sabha election. It is the High Court which has original jurisdiction regarding disputes arising in Rajya Sabha election.

Statement 4 is incorrect. The Election Commission of India (ECI) issued two circulars, on January 24, 2014 and November 12, 2015, giving Rajya Sabha members the option to press the NOTA button in the Upper House polls. However, in 2018, **the Supreme Court of India struck down the provision, holding that the 'none of the above' option is only for general elections** held on the basis of universal adult suffrage, and cannot be applied to indirect elections based on proportional representation.

2. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Constitution empowers the Parliament to make laws on any matter enumerated in the State List under certain extraordinary circumstances. If the Rajya Sabha declares that it is necessary in the national interest that Parliament should make laws with respect to goods and services tax or a matter in the State List, then the Parliament becomes competent to make laws on that matter.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Such a resolution must be supported by **two-thirds of the members present and voting. It does not require an absolute majority.**

Statement 2 is correct. The resolution passed by the Rajya Sabha remains in force for one year; it can be renewed any number of times but not exceeding one year at a time.

Statement 3 is incorrect. This provision would not restrict the power of a state legislature to make laws on the same matter. Thus, they can make laws but in case of inconsistency between a state law and a parliamentary law, the Parliamentary law will prevail.

3. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

In India, the office of the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition, and the Whip plays an important part in the functioning of the Parliamentary system of India.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha is the majority party's leader and parliamentary chairperson and is usually a cabinet minister or another nominated minister.

The Leader of the House is in charge of scheduling government meetings and conducting business in the House. Leader of the House in Lok Sabha is the Prime Minister by default if she/he is a member of the Lok Sabha. If the Prime Minister is not a member of Parliament's Lower House, she or he might appoint another minister to serve as Leader of the House.

Statement 2 is correct: The **Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977**, was enacted to provide for the salaries and allowances of the Leader of the Opposition in both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. The statutory recognition for the position of Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha was accorded through this act.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Though the offices of the leader of the House and the leader of the Opposition are not mentioned in the Constitution of India, they are mentioned in the Rules of the House and Parliamentary Statute respectively. The **office of 'whip', on the other hand, is mentioned neither in the Constitution of India nor in the Rules of the House nor in a Parliamentary Statute.** It is based on the conventions of the parliamentary government.

4. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

A member of Parliament vacates his seat under following circumstances:

Statement 1 is correct: A person cannot be a member of both Houses of Parliament at the same time. If a **sitting member of one House is also elected to the other House, his seat in the first House becomes vacant.** The Representation of People Act

(1951) provides for the following: If a person is elected to both the Houses of Parliament, he must intimate within 10 days in which House he desires to serve. In default of such intimation, **his seat in the Rajya Sabha becomes vacant.**

Statement 2 is correct: If a member of Parliament becomes subject to any of the **disqualifications specified in the Constitution, his seat becomes vacant.** Here, the list of disqualifications also includes the disqualification on the **grounds of defection under the provisions of the Tenth Schedule** of the Constitution.

Statement 3 is incorrect: If a censure motion is passed against a member of Parliament by both Houses, it **does not result in the vacation of their seat.** A censure motion is a formal statement of disapproval passed by the House against an individual minister or a group of ministers or the entire council of ministers.

5. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The origin of **Estimates Committee can be traced to the standing financial committee** set up in 1921. The first Estimates Committee in the post-independence era was constituted in 1950 on the recommendation of John Mathai, the then finance minister. The Rajya Sabha has no representation in this committee.

The function of the committee is to examine the **estimates included in the budget and suggest 'economies' in public expenditure.** Hence, it has been described as a '**continuous economy committee'.**

The functions of the Estimate committee are:

1. To report what economies, improvements in organisation, efficiency and administrative reform consistent with the policy underlying the estimates, can be affected
2. To **suggest alternative policies in order to bring about efficiency and economy in administration**
3. To examine whether the money is well laid out within the limits of the policy implied in the estimates

Important Tips

The **Committee on Public Undertakings** examines the reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on the functioning of public sector undertakings.

The **Public Accounts Committee** examines the accounts showing the appropriation of sums granted by Parliament for the expenditure of the government and makes recommendations to the government to ensure financial propriety and accountability.

The **Committee on Government Assurances** examines the assurances, promises, undertakings, etc. given by the government from time to time and reports on the extent to which such assurances have been implemented.

6. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect and option b is correct: Committee on Subordinate Legislation **examines and reports to the House whether the powers to make regulations, rules, sub-rules and bye-laws delegated by the Parliament** or conferred by the Constitution to the Executive are being properly exercised by it. In **both the Houses, the committee consists of 15 members.** It was constituted in 1953. The Committee on Subordinate Legislation **examines the rules, regulations, and bye-laws made by the executive**, and not all papers laid on the table of the House.

Option c is incorrect: The recommendations of the committee are **not binding on the ministers or the house.** However, the committee's reports are considered influential and are often given due consideration by the House.

Option d is incorrect: The chairperson of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation is **appointed by the Speaker in the Lok Sabha and by the Chairman in the Rajya Sabha.** The leader of the opposition may be appointed as a member of the committee, but they are not the de-facto chairperson.

7. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Departmentally-Related Standing Committees (DRSCs) are a set of parliamentary committees in India that are dedicated to examining the functioning of various departments and ministries of the government.

Statement 1 is correct: According to the rules of Parliament, a **minister is not eligible to be nominated as a member** of any of the standing committees. In case a member, after his nomination to any of the standing committees, is appointed a minister, he then ceases to be a member of the committee.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The term of the office of each standing committee is not restricted to a single session of the house of Parliament. The term of office of **each standing committee is one year from the date of its constitution.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: It is the function of the standing committees:

1. **To consider the demands for grants of the concerned ministries / departments before they are discussed and voted in the Lok Sabha. Its report should not suggest anything of the nature of cut motions.**
2. To examine bills pertaining to the concerned ministries / departments
3. To consider annual reports of ministries / departments
4. To consider national basic long-term policy documents presented to the Houses

8. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Parliamentary forums are created to provide a **platform to the Members of Parliament to have interactions with the Ministers concerned, experts and key officials** from the nodal ministries with a view to have a focused and meaningful discussion on critical issues faced by a nation.

Option 1 is correct: The Parliamentary Forum on **Water Conservation and Management was the first parliamentary forum** created in India. It was constituted by the Speaker of

the Lok Sabha in 2005. One of the functions of this forum is to identify problems relating to water and make recommendations for consideration and appropriate action by the department concerned.

Option 2 is correct: The Parliamentary Forum on Global Warming and Climate Change was constituted in 2008 and one of the functions of this forum is to identify problems relating to global warming and climate change and make recommendations for consideration and appropriate action by the Government.

Option 3 is correct: The Parliamentary Forum on Population and Public Health was constituted in 2006 and one of the functions of this forum is to have focused discussions on strategies relating to population stabilisation and matters related to it.

Option 4 and 5 is incorrect: There is no Parliamentary forum on Women Empowerment nor on Socially and Economically Backward Classes (SEBC). Currently there are **eight Parliamentary forums in India** which includes, apart from the forums mentioned in the above options, Parliamentary Forum on **Youth, Parliamentary** Forum on **Children,** Parliamentary Forum on **Disaster Management**, Parliamentary Forum on **Artisans and Crafts-people** and Parliamentary Forum on **Millennium Development Goals.**

9. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Indian parliamentary group (IPG)** was formed in 1949 in pursuance of a motion adopted by the Constituent Assembly of India and IPG is an autonomous body. IPG aims to promote personal contacts between Members of the Parliament (MPs) and to study questions of public importance that are likely to come up before the Parliament.

Option a is incorrect: The President of India is not an ex-officio chairman of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG). The President is an integral part of the parliament, along with Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. Any bill passed by each house requires assent of the president to become an act.

Option b is correct: It is true that the **Speaker of Lok Sabha is an ex-officio chairperson** of the Indian parliamentary group **(IPG).** Membership of the Indian Parliamentary Group is open to all Members of Parliament and ex-Members of Parliament. The management and control of the affairs of the Group are vested in the **Executive Committee**.

Option c is incorrect: Chairperson of Rajya Sabha is not an ex-officio chairperson of IPG. The Vice President of India acts as an ex-officio chairperson of the Rajya Sabha and chairman of Rajya Sabha is not a member of Rajya Sabha.

Option d is incorrect: The Secretary General of the Lok Sabha is not an ex-officio chairperson of the Indian parliamentary group (IPG). The Secretary General of the Lok Sabha is an **ex-officio Secretary-General of the IPG.**

Important Tips

The Inter Parliamentary Group (IPG) aims to promote personal contacts between Members of Parliament and disseminate information to the Members of Parliament by conducting seminars etc. on the issues that are likely to come up before Parliament.

The Group acts as a link between the Parliament of India and the various Parliaments of the world by exchange of delegations, goodwill missions, documents etc. with foreign Parliaments. It also functions as the (a) National Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and (b) Main Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in India.

10. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **membership of Parliament Group is open to all members of Parliament.** The former members of Parliament can also become **associate members** of the Group but the associate members are entitled to limited rights only.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Parliament group does not engage in helping MPs to get information from Ministers. The Parliamentary group aims to promote personal contacts between Members of the

Parliament of India and also this group act as a bridge between Parliament of India and legislatures of foreign countries.

Statement 2 is correct: It is true that IPG functions as the National Group of the IPU. IPU is the global organization of national parliaments traces its origin to 1889 when it was started as small Parliamentary groups. IPU amins to facilitate parliaments and parliamentarians across the world to promote peace, democracy and sustainable development around the world.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Parliamentary groups do not organise conferences among speakers of State legislative assemblies. However, the group organised the National **Conference of Women Legislators in** New Delhi in **2016** with a theme "Women Legislators: Building Resurgent India".

Statement 4 is correct: It is true that **Parliamentary groups aim to study questions of public importance** by arranging seminars and discussions among members of this group. The group organises seminars and symposia on parliamentary subjects of topical interest at national as well as international level.

11. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Lok Sabha is the lower house of India's bicameral Parliament, with the upper house being the Rajya Sabha. Members of the Lok Sabha are elected by an adult universal suffrage and a first-past-the-post system to represent their respective constituencies, and they hold their seats for five years or until the body **is dissolved by the President** on the advice of the council of ministers.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 74 provides for a council of ministers with the Prime Minister at the head to aid and advise

the President in the exercise of his functions. In 1971, the **Supreme Court held that 'even after the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, the council of ministers does not cease to hold office.** Article 74 is mandatory and, therefore, the president cannot exercise the executive power without the aid and advise of the council of ministers.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The dissolution of the House through Presidential proclamation **cannot be challenged in courts** is held by Supreme Court in 2004. Supreme Court said that it has been in consistent constitutional practice that Prime Minister had the sole prerogative to recommend dissolution of Lok Sabha to the President.

12. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The **presiding officer can permit a member** to address the House in his **mother-tongue**. In both the Houses, arrangements are made for simultaneous translation.

Statement 2 is correct: The Constitution (**Article 120**) has declared **Hindi and English** to be the languages for transacting business in the Parliament. Though English was to be discontinued as a floor language after the expiration of fifteen years from the commencement of the Constitution (that is, in 1965), the Official Languages Act (1963) allowed English to be continued along with Hindi.

13. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Parliamentary committees are classified into two types: Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Committees. Standing Committees are permanent bodies that are constituted every year or periodically, and they work on a continuous basis throughout the duration of their tenure. On the other hand, Ad Hoc Committees are temporary bodies formed for specific purposes or tasks, and they cease to exist upon the completion of the task assigned to them.

Pair 1 is correct. The origin of the **Estimates Committee** can be traced back to the standing financial committee established in 1921. In the post-independence era, the first Estimates Committee was formed in **1950 based on the recommendations put forth by John Mathai.** Presently, the committee comprises **30 members, all of whom are from the Lok Sabha**, with no representation from the Rajya Sabha. The function of the committee is to examine the estimates included in the budget and suggest 'economies' in public expenditure.

Pair 2 is correct. The **Committee on Public Undertakings** was established in 1964 based on the recommendations of the Krishna Menon Committee. In 1974, the membership of the committee was increased to 22, with 15 members from the Lok Sabha and 7 members from the Rajya Sabha. It examines the reports and accounts of public undertakings.

Pair 3 is correct. The General Purposes Committee is tasked with **considering and advising on matters concerning the affairs of the House that do not fall within the jurisdiction of any other parliamentary committee**. In each House, this committee is **chaired by the presiding officer (Speaker/ Chairman) as its ex-officio chairman**, with the Deputy Speaker (Deputy Chairman in the case of the Rajya Sabha) serving as the deputy chairman.

Pair 4 is correct. The Business Advisory Committee is responsible for regulating the program and timetable of the House. It allocates time for the transaction of legislative and other business brought before the House by the government.

14. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. It should pertain to the **interpretation or enforcement of the Rules of the House or relevant articles of the Constitution that regulate the business of the House.** The question raised should fall within the purview of the Speaker's/ Chairperson's authority.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Any member of the house can raise a point of order. Typically, **opposition members raise points of order** to scrutinize the actions of the government. It is considered an **extraordinary measure** as it halts the ongoing proceedings in the House. **No debate is permitted on a point of order.**

15. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. In a parliamentary system of government, the leader of the largest Opposition party, holding not less than one-tenth of the total strength of the House, is recognized as the leader of the Opposition in that House. **However there is no constitutional provision, the THE SALARY AND ALLOWANCES OF LEADERS OF OPPOSITION IN PARLIAMENT ACT, 1977 also does not provide for the requirement of one tenth members as an essential pre-requisite. As it all depends on the Speaker's directions and discretion. But so far, the party holding one tenth of the seat in a house has been recognized as LoP in the Houses of Parliament generally.**

Statement 2 is correct. In 1977, statutory recognition was granted to the leaders of the Opposition in both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. Additionally, they are entitled to receive **a salary, allowances, and other facilities equivalent to those of a cabinet minister.**

Important Tips

The recognition of an **official leader of the opposition first occurred in 1969.** The leader of the opposition plays a crucial role by offering constructive criticism of the government's policies and presenting alternative governance strategies.

16. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The 106th Constitutional Amendment Act, also known as the **Women's Reservation Bill, 2023**, focuses on **increasing women's participation** in Indian politics. This Act is a landmark legislation aimed at promoting **greater gender equality** in Indian politics.

Statement 1 is incorrect: This **Act mandates reserving one-third of all seats** in the **Lok Sabha (lower house of Parliament)** and **State Legislative Assemblies** for women. This reservation extends to the **National Capital Territory of Delhi's Legislative Assembly** as well. It **doesn't** bring in this **reservation** in **Rajya Sabha** or legislative councils.

Statement 2 is correct: The **Women reservation law** will be **implemented after the next census** and the **subsequent delimitation exercise**, i.e., redrawing of Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies. These measures will determine the particular seats that are to be reserved for women.

Statement 3 is incorrect: While there is quota within this quota **for Scheduled Caste (SC)** and **Scheduled Tribe (ST) women, it has no provision for OBC women,** though the opposition has demanded for it.

17. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

In Indian Parliament, an **adjournment motion** is a way for **Members of Parliament** to **bring attention** to a **matter of urgent public importance**. It is a **procedural mechanism** that allows an MP to urge the Speaker to adjourn the House's business to discuss an urgent matter. A **censure motion** is an **expression of strong disapproval** or harsh criticism. In parliamentary procedure, it is a debatable main motion that could be adopted by a majority vote.

Statement 1 is correct:

For an **adjournment Motion, a reason must be stated.** An adjournment motion is moved for the **purpose of drawing attention to a matter of urgent public importance,** and it **necessitates** an **explanation** of the **matter's urgency and significance.**

Similarly, for a censure Motion, a reason must be stated too. A censure motion is moved **against the Council of Ministers for specific policies and actions**. It requires the **reasons for censure to be outlined,** providing a **basis for the discussion** and the demand for the government to explain its conduct.

Statement 2 is incorrect:

The **Council of Ministers does not need to resign if an adjournment motion** is **passed.** The adjournment motion is **primarily aimed at discussing an urgent issue** rather **than** expressing a **lack of confidence in the government.**

Similarly, the **passing of a censure motion** does **not necessitate** the **resignation** of the **Council of Ministers.** A censure motion **does not directly challenge the government's majority in the House.** It is a **tool for criticizing the government's policies or actions** without forcing it to resign.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The **adjournment motion,** as well as **censure motion,** both **are not mentioned in the Constitution of India.** They are **parliamentary procedures defined by the rules of procedure** of the respective houses (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha).

Important Tips

Censure Motion

1. It leads to the suspension of the scheduled business of the House to discuss the urgent matter brought up by the motion. The normal business is temporarily put on hold.
2. It requires support from a certain number of members to be admitted for discussion. For example, in the Lok Sabha, the support of 50 members is needed for the motion to be admitted.
3. It does not interrupt the normal proceedings of the House. Instead, it is scheduled for discussion as part of the regular business, focusing on the government's performance.
4. It does not require a minimum number of supporters to be introduced. However, like any motion, its passage depends on the majority of members present and voting.

18. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 105 of the Constitution deals with the powers and privileges of the Houses of Parliament and their members and committees.

Statement 1 is correct: Parliamentary privileges are special rights, immunities and exemptions enjoyed by the two Houses of Parliament, their committees and their members. They are necessary in order to secure the independence and effectiveness of their actions.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Parliamentary privileges do not grant MPs absolute freedom of speech. For example, Article 121 of the Constitution prohibits any discussion in Parliament regarding the conduct of judges of the Supreme Court or High Courts unless it is related to a motion for their removal.

19. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha** is the **second-highest ranking authority** of the **Lok Sabha**. As per **Article 93 of** the Constitution, the House of the People **(Lok Sabha) shall,** as soon as may be, **choose two members** to be **Speaker** and **Deputy Speaker** so often as the offices become vacant.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha** is **elected** by the **Lok Sabha (not nominated by the speaker)** from amongst its members. The **process is laid out in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha,** making this position one **of democratic choice** rather than appointment by the Speaker. The **Speaker sets the date for the Deputy Speaker's election,** which typically happens after the Speaker is elected.

Statement 2 is correct:

1. The **salaries and allowances of the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha,** along with other specific positions, are **charged on the Consolidated Fund of India** and are **not subject to the annual vote of Parliament.**
2. The **Parliament needs approval to withdraw money from Consolidated Fund of India,** but **certain expenditures are pre-approved** and **automatically deducted (charged)** from the Consolidated Fund.
3. **Article 112(3) and Article 202(3) of the Indian Constitution specify** these **pre-approved expenditures.** These include **salaries, allowances, and pensions for**

specific positions like the **President, Governors, Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha, Judges of Supreme** and **High Courts**, etc.

Statement 3 is correct: In the case of a **joint sitting of Parliament**, convened **under Article 108** of the Constitution, if the **Speaker of the Lok Sabha is absent**, the **Deputy Speaker presides** over the **joint sitting**. This is **one of the significant roles** that highlights the Deputy Speaker's importance in the parliamentary framework.

Statement 4 is correct: There are **three ways the Deputy Speaker's office can become vacant** –

1. **Cease to be a member** – If the Deputy Speaker is no longer a member of the Lok Sabha (due to resignation, disqualification, etc.), the office becomes vacant automatically.
2. **Resignation** – The **Deputy Speaker can choose to resign** from the position by **submitting a written letter of resignation to the Speaker.**
3. **Removal by Resolution** – The Deputy Speaker can be removed through a resolution passed by a majority of all the members of the Lok Sabha. However, a 14-day advance notice is required before such a resolution can be considered.

Important Tips

The order of precedence for who presides over a joint session:

1. Speaker of the Lok Sabha: This is the primary person who presides over a joint sitting.
2. Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha: If the Speaker is unavailable, then the Deputy Speaker takes over the responsibility.
3. Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha: If both the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha are absent, then the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha presides.
4. Member of Parliament: In the rare case that all the above officials are unavailable, then a member of Parliament can be chosen by consensus of both Houses to preside over the joint sitting.

If the position of Speaker is vacant (perhaps due to resignation or removal), then the Deputy Speaker's resignation letter would be addressed to the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha instead.

20. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Rajya Sabha should consist of not more than 250 members - 238 members representing the States and Union Territories, and 12 members nominated by the President.

Options 1, 2 and 3 are correct. In total eight members are elected from the Union territories (3 from Delhi, 1 from Puducherry and 4 from Jammu & Kashmir). Other Union territories are not represented in Rajya Sabha.

Important Tips

Members of Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected members of the Assemblies of States and Union territories in accordance with the **system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.**

21. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Option 1 is Correct Under Article 250, Parliament has the power to make laws with respect to all matters in the State List while the proclamation of national emergency (article 352) is in operation

Option 2 is Correct As per Article 252, if the legislature of two or more states passes a resolution to the effect that it is desirable to have a law passed by the Parliament on any matters in the State List, then the Parliament can make laws for regulating that matter

Option 3 is Correct Under Article 356, the Parliament is empowered to make laws with respect to all matters in the State List when the President's Rule is imposed in the concerned state

Option 4 is Correct Article 253 empowers the Parliament to make any law for the whole or any part of the territory of India for implementing treaties and international agreements and conventions

22. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The 104th Constitutional Amendment Act came into force on 25th January 2020. It extended the reservation for SCs and STs by another 10 years till January 25, 2030 and discontinued the nomination to Anglo Indians after 25th January 2020.

Statement I is correct. Article 331 provided for the nomination of 2 members of the Anglo-Indian community to the Lok Sabha by the President. Article 334 provides the expiry period for above provision i.e., 10 years after the commencement of the constitution. However with subsequent amendment its period was extended till 2015. **In 2019, 104th Constitution amendment act discontinued the provision for nomination of Anglo Indians in Lok Sabha. The provision of this amendment came into force from January 2020.**

Statement II is correct: As per **Article 366 (2) of the Indian Constitution: "an Anglo-Indian"** means a person whose father or any of whose other male progenitors in the male line is or was of European descent but who is domiciled within the territory of India and is or was born within such territory of parents habitually resident therein and not established there for temporary purposes only. Thus, it is defined in the Indian Constitution.

But Statement – II is not the correct explanation for Statement – I.

23. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Council of States i.e. Rajya Sabha is the Upper House of the Indian Parliament. Rajya Sabha consists of the representatives

of the States and the Union Territories and persons nominated by the President of India. The Vice-President of India is the ex-officio Chairman of Rajya Sabha.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Rajya Sabha represents the States of India. It is an indirectly elected body. Residents of the State elect members to the State Legislative Assembly. As per **Article 80** of constitution, **the elected members of the State Legislative Assembly in turn elect the members of the Rajya Sabha. Nominated members of the State Legislature do not participate** in the election of the Rajya Sabha members.

Statement 2 is correct. The number of members to be elected from each State has been **fixed by the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution.** The fourth schedule of the Constitution deals with the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha to the states and Union Territories. States with larger populations get more representatives than States with smaller populations. Thus, a more populous State like Uttar Pradesh sends 31 members to the Rajya Sabha, while a smaller and less populous State like Sikkim has one seat in the Rajya Sabha.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Apart from the elected members, Rajya Sabha also has twelve nominated members. **The President nominates these members.** These nominations are made **from among**

those persons who have made their mark in the fields of literature, science, art and social service.

The President of India need not to nominate two members to the Rajya Sabha **from the Anglo-Indian Community as any such criterion is not mentioned in the Constitution of India.**

24. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

A **Money Bill** is defined under **Article 110** of the Constitution. It deals exclusively with financial matters such as taxation, borrowing, expenditure from or receipts to the Consolidated Fund of India, etc. The **Speaker of the Lok Sabha** has the sole authority to decide whether a bill is a Money Bill, and the Rajya Sabha has a limited role.

Statement a is incorrect. When a money bill is presented to the President, he may either give his/her assent to the bill or withhold his/her assent to the bill but **cannot return the bill** for reconsideration of the Houses. It means he/she is not constitutionally bound to give his/her assent. But normally, the President gives his assent to a money bill as it is introduced in the Parliament with his prior permission.

Statement b is correct. The Constitution lays down a special procedure for the passing of money bills in the Parliament. A **money bill can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha** and that too on the recommendation of the President. Every such bill is considered to be a government bill **and can be introduced only by a minister.**

Statement c is correct. If any question arises **whether a bill is a money bill or not, the decision of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha is final.** His decision in this regard cannot be questioned in any court of law or in either the House of Parliament or even the president. When a money bill is transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for recommendation and presented to the president for assent, the Speaker endorses it as a money bill.

Statement d is correct. As per Article 110(2) of the Constitution of India - **A Bill shall not be deemed to be a Money Bill by reason only that it provides for the imposition of fines** or other pecuniary penalties, or for the demand or payment of fees for licences or fees for services rendered, or by reason that it provides for the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax by any local authority or body for local purposes.

25. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Private Members' Bills and Resolutions are the only avenue available for Parliamentarians' individual expression without being bound by their political party.

Statement 1 is incorrect. A Private Member's Bill is initiated by an individual member of the Parliament, who is not a minister. Any bill introduced by a member other than minister is considered as a Private Members' Bill, irrespective of the fact that whether the member is from the ruling party/coalition or other party.

Statement 2 is incorrect. For introducing a government bill in the Indian Parliament, a notice period of seven days is required. A notice of 30 days is given to introduce the Private Member's Bill. While Government Bills can be introduced and discussed on any day, Private Member's Bills are usually introduced and discussed on Fridays.

Statement 3 is correct. No private member bill has been passed by the Parliament since 1970. It was the Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Bill, 1968. 14 private member's bills — five of which were introduced in Rajya Sabha — have become law so far.

26. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 249 of the Indian Constitution empowers Parliament to legislate on matters in the State List.

Statement 1 is correct. Parliament can legislate on matters in the State List, if the Rajya Sabha declares it necessary or expedient in the national interest. **Such a resolution requires a special majority of the Rajya Sabha, which is a two-thirds majority of the total number of members present and voting.**

Statement 2 is incorrect. Once passed, the resolution remains in effect for one year. It can be extended by another resolution passed by the Rajya Sabha.

Laws enacted through such resolutions are valid for six months only, after the resolution of the Rajya Sabha expires. **Thus laws enacted through such resolutions do not continue indefinitely.**

27. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

A bill that provides for the imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax will be considered as a Money Bill (Article 110). Money bills can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha and only with the recommendation of the President.

The will of the Lok Sabha prevails with respect to passage of a money bill in the Parliament. Only the Lok Sabha can approve or reject money bills. It cannot be amended or rejected by the Rajya Sabha. The Rajya Sabha should return the bill with or without recommendations, which may be accepted or rejected by the Lok Sabha.

The Lok Sabha is not bound to accept any of the recommendations of the Rajya Sabha. A Money Bill passed by the Lok Sabha and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha must be returned by the Rajya Sabha within the period of fourteen days. If it is not, then it shall be deemed to have been passed by both Houses at the expiration of the said period in the form in which it was passed by the Lok Sabha.

So, if the Government of India proposes to introduce any new tax, it has to get the approval of the Lok Sabha. Thus, **only Lok Sabha can reject or approve such a bill.**

Important Tips

Article 110 states that a bill is deemed to be a money bill if it contains **'only' provisions dealing with** all or any of the following matters:

- The imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax;
- The regulation of the borrowing of money or the giving of any guarantee by the Government of India, or the amendment of the law with respect to any financial obligations undertaken or to be undertaken by the Government of India;
- The custody of the Consolidated Fund of India or the contingency fund of India, the payment of moneys into or the withdrawal of money from any such fund;
- The appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Fund of India;
- Declaration of any expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India or increasing the amount of any such expenditure;
- The receipt of money on account of the Consolidated Fund of India or the public account of India or the custody or issue of such money, or the audit of the accounts of the Union or of a state; or
- Any matter incidental to any of the matters specified above.

28. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Parliament is the highest law-making body of the Union Government. Apart from the legislative functions, it also performs a number of other functions like financial, electoral and judicial.

Judicial functions of Parliament means when the Parliament act in a quasi-judicial manner.

Option 1 is incorrect. The Parliament performs some electoral functions. It elects the President and Vice President of India. The Lok Sabha elects its Speaker and Deputy Speaker, while the Rajya Sabha elects its Deputy Chairman. Electing the President is not the judicial function of Parliament.

Option 2 is incorrect. The Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts are appointed by the President, and not by the Parliament. Every Judge of the Supreme Court is appointed by the President after consultation with such of the Judges of the Supreme Court and of the High Courts in the States as the President may deem necessary.

Option 3 is correct. The Parliament can impeach the President for the violation of the Constitution. The President can be impeached if a resolution has been passed in both the houses of the Parliament. Such a resolution must be passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the total membership of the House.

Option 4 is correct. Passing the resolution for the removal of the Vice-President of India is a judicial function of Parliament. The Vice President can be removed by a resolution passed by a majority of all the then members of the Rajya Sabha (Effective Majority) and agreed to by the Lok Sabha (Simple Majority).

Option 5 is incorrect. Passing a Constitutional Amendment Bill is a Legislative and not the Judicial Function of the Parliament of India.

29. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

A Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) is set up by the Parliament for a special purpose, like the detailed scrutiny of a subject or Bill.

Statement 1 is correct. JPC is an ad-hoc Committee, established by the Parliament to conduct a thorough examination of a specific subject or Bill. The mandate of a JPC depends on the motion constituting it.

Statement 2 is correct. It is set up by a motion passed in one House of the Parliament and agreed to by the other House. It has members from both the Houses and from the ruling parties and the opposition. It is dissolved after its term ends or its task has been completed. While the recommendations of a JPC have persuasive value, they are not binding on the government.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Members of the JPC are elected by the Parliament and the number of members can vary. In a JPC, typically up to 31 MPs (21 from Lok Sabha and 10 from Rajya Sabha) are selected, reflecting proportional party strength. **Thus, it is not required that both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have equal representation in a JPC.**

30. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

In the Indian Parliament, **Zero Hour** is a unique parliamentary innovation that allows members to raise matters of urgent public importance without prior notice. Introduced in the 1960s, Zero Hour reflects the flexibility and responsiveness of parliamentary procedures to address critical issues.

Statement 1 is correct: Zero Hour is an **informal device** that is neither mentioned in the **Constitution of India** nor in the **Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business** of either House of Parliament. It emerged in the **1960s** as a parliamentary convention when MPs started raising matters of public importance without prior notice after Question Hour. Despite

its informal status, it is widely recognized and followed in practice.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Unlike **Question Hour**, where ministers are bound to answer questions, there is **no compulsion** for ministers to provide an immediate reply during Zero Hour. Matters raised are often noted for further examination, and replies are provided later, if deemed necessary. The objective of Zero Hour is to highlight urgent issues and bring them to the government's attention.

Statement 3 is correct: The **Speaker of the Lok Sabha** and the Chaiman of Rajya Sabha exercises complete discretion in deciding which matters can be raised during Zero Hour. MPs must submit a **written notice** before 10 A.M. on same day, specifying the subject they wish to discuss. The Speaker or the Chairman as the case may be, examines the submissions and determines the urgency of the issues before allowing them to be raised. This ensures orderly proceedings while addressing matters of significance.

31. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

A **No-Confidence Motion** is a key parliamentary mechanism in India, allowing Members of Parliament (MPs) to express a lack of confidence in the **Council of Ministers**. This motion is central to ensuring accountability of the executive to the legislature, a hallmark of the **parliamentary system of government** under the Indian Constitution.

Statement 1 is correct: A No-Confidence Motion can **only be moved in the Lok Sabha** under **Article 75(3)** of the Constitution, which states that the **Council of Ministers shall be collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha**. The Rajya Sabha cannot move this motion.

Statement 2 is correct: The No-Confidence Motion is aimed at the **Council of Ministers collectively**, reflecting their **collective responsibility** to the Lok Sabha under **Article 75(3) of the Constitution of India**. It cannot be moved against an individual minister. If passed, the entire Council of Ministers, including the Prime Minister, must resign.

Statement 3 is correct: If a No-Confidence Motion is defeated, it cannot be reintroduced during the same session of Parliament. This rule prevents misuse of the motion to repeatedly disrupt proceedings and ensures stability in governance. The Speaker has the authority to regulate such motions to maintain decorum and continuity of the House.

32. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Lok Sabha** (House of the People) and the **Rajya Sabha** (Council of States) are the two Houses of the Indian Parliament. While they collectively perform legislative, financial, and deliberative functions, their powers are not always equal. Specific constitutional provisions grant **special powers** to each House, reflecting the bicameral nature of Indian democracy.

Statement 1 is correct: Under **Article 368**, both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have **equal powers** in the process of constitutional amendment. A Bill for amending the Constitution can be introduced in either House, and it must be passed by each House with a **special majority** (two-thirds of members present and voting and a majority of the total membership).

Statement 2 is correct: Under **Article 249**, the Rajya Sabha has the special power to authorize Parliament to legislate on matters enumerated in the **State List**. If the Rajya Sabha passes a resolution by a **two-thirds majority** of members present and voting, it allows Parliament to make laws on State List subjects in the **national interest**.

Statement 3 is correct: The **Vice President of India** is the ex-officio **Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha**. Under **Article 67(b)**, a resolution for the removal of the Vice President can only be **initiated in the Rajya Sabha**.

Statement 4 is incorrect: In matters related to the **Budget**, the Lok Sabha has overriding authority. The **Annual Financial Statement** (Budget) is presented in the Lok Sabha under **Article 110**. While the Rajya Sabha can **discuss** the Budget, it has no power to **vote** on **demand for grants** or make any amendments.

33. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Rajya Sabha (Upper house of the Parliament) is one of the two houses of India's bicameral legislature, the other being the **Lok Sabha (House of the People)**. Rajya Sabha can have a maximum of **250 members**. Among these, **238 members represent the states and union territories** of India, while **12 members are nominated by the President** for their contributions to **art, literature, science, and social services.**

Statement 1 is incorrect: Members of the Rajya Sabha are **not directly elected by the residents** of the state. They are elected by the **elected members of the Legislative Assemblies**.

Statement 2 is correct: It is true that the **allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha for each state** is determined by the **fourth schedule of the Indian Constitution.** This Schedule contains the number of seats represented in the Council of states (Rajya Sabha) from **each State and Union Territory.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: Unlike in the United States, the number of **seats allocated** to each State is based on the **population of the respective states**. For example, Uttar Pradesh with its huge population has 31 seats whereas the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, **Sikkim** and Tripura have got **only 1 member each.** Hence this statement is incorrect.

34. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Short notice questions allow Members of Parliament or Legislators to seek immediate clarification or information from the government on pressing issues. These questions can be asked for oral answer at a notice period less than 10 days.

Statement 2 is correct: In the case of short notice questions, the concerned Minister has the discretion to accept or reject the question. If the Minister agrees to answer, the question becomes admissible and can be taken up for discussion during the session.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Short notice questions are taken up after the question hour.

35. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

In most matters, the Rajya Sabha has equal powers with the Lok Sabha, **except money bills and the approval of budget proposals** of the Union Government. Also, only the **Lok Sabha can pass a vote of no-confidence**, leading to the dissolution of the government.

Statement 1 is correct: In India, an amendment to the Constitution can be **initiated** in either **Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha**. The amendment must be passed by both houses individually, by a special majority. A **special majority** means:

1. A **majority of the total membership of each house** (i.e., more than 50%).
2. A majority of **not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting** in **each house.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Rajya Sabha **alone can initiate** the procedure for removal of the Vice President, who is the **ex-officio chairperson of the Rajya Sabha**. Moreover, the removal of the Vice President of India **requires a resolution passed by an effective majority in the Rajya Sabha** and approved by the **Lok Sabha through a simple majority vote.** Hence this statement is incorrect.

36. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Joint sitting is an **extraordinary machinery** provided by the Constitution aimed to maintain a much-needed **synergy between the two houses** of the Parliament. **Article 118** provides that President of India may after consultation with the chair of the Rajya Sabha and the Speaker of Lok Sabha may make rules for **procedure of joint session** of parliament.

Statements 2 and 3 are correct:

- **Ordinary Bill and Financial bills** under Article 117 (1) of the Constitution are sent for the President's assent only after being approved by both the Houses. In case of a deadlock due to disagreement between the two Houses, a joint sitting of both the houses can be summoned by the President to resolve the deadlock.

Statements 1 and 4 are incorrect:

- **Money bill** is sent for the President's assent even if it is approved by only Lok Sabha. There is no chance of any disagreement between the two Houses as the Rajya Sabha has limited rights over money bills. Hence, there is no provision of joint sitting of both the Houses in this regard.
- **Constitution Amendment Bill**: As per Article 368, the Indian Constitution can be amended by both houses of parliament by 2/3rd majority. In case of disagreement between both houses, there is no provision to summon joint session of parliament.

Important Tips

When can Joint Sitting be called?

A Joint Sitting can be called under any one of the following three situations after a bill has been passed by one House and transmitted to the other House:

1. if the bill is rejected by the other House;
2. if the Houses have finally disagreed as to the amendments to be made in the bill; or
3. if more than six months have elapsed from the date of the receipt of the bill by the other House without the bill being passed by it.

In the above three situations, the president can summon both the Houses to meet in a joint sitting for the purpose of deliberating and voting on the bill.

37. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

In India, a Money Bill is a type of legislation that relates to the **appropriation of money from the Consolidated Fund of India.** Money Bills are type of financial legislation that exclusively deals with matters related to **taxation, public expenditure, and public debt.**

Option a is incorrect: While Rajya Sabha **does not have the authority to initiate money bills,** it has the **power to suggest amendments to the money bills** passed by the Lok Sabha. However, **Lok Sabha can either accept or reject** the amendments proposed by the Rajya Sabha.

Option b is correct: It is true that **Rajya Sabha has the power only to delay money bills** for up to **14 days** but cannot reject them. After 14 days following the passage of a money bill in the Lok Sabha, the bill is deemed to have been passed by both houses, even if the Rajya Sabha hasn't approved it.

Option c is incorrect: Although the Rajya Sabha holds parity with the Lok Sabha in matters related to ordinary bills, it lacks an equivalent authority when it comes to money bills. Composed of members elected by the State legislative assemblies, the Rajya Sabha does not possess the ability to influence the financial affairs of the Union Government.

Option d is incorrect. Money Bills can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha and not in the Rajya Sabha.

38. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

In India, Parliamentary committees are **specialised bodies** within the Indian Parliament. They mainly engaged in the in-depth examination of various aspects of government functioning, including legislative proposals, budgetary allocations, policies, and administrative actions.

Statement 1 is incorrect: While it is a common practice to refer bills to parliamentary committees for detailed examination and scrutiny, it is **not mandated by the Constitution**. The decision to refer a bill to a committee is typically made by the **Speaker** of the Lok Sabha or the **Chairperson** of the Rajya Sabha.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Department Related Standing Committees (DRSCs) play a **significant role in scrutinising**

the budgetary allocations for specific government departments. **They do not have the final authority to approve the budget.** No budget will be sanctioned unless approved by the Parliament. However, the recommendations of DRSCs are influential in the budgetary process as the **Parliament rarely rejects the suggestions made by the committees.**

39. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The casting vote in the Parliament is cast by the Speaker or a person acting as the Speaker. The Speaker is the presiding officer of the House and has the authority to exercise the casting vote when required.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The casting vote is not cast in addition to voting in the first instance. It is only used in specific situations when there is an equality of votes on a particular matter.

Statement 3 is correct: The casting vote is cast in the case of equality of votes. In parliamentary proceedings, if there is a tie or equal number of votes on a particular issue, the Speaker or the person acting as the Speaker can exercise the casting vote to break the tie and reach a decision.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The casting vote is not always cast to maintain the status quo. The Speaker or the person acting as the Speaker can exercise the casting vote based on their discretion or in accordance with parliamentary rules and procedures.

40. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option 1 is correct: Lok Sabha, also known as the House of the People, is one of the two houses of the Parliament of India. It is the **lower house and an integral part of the Indian Parliament.**

Option 2 is correct: Rajya Sabha, also known as the Council of States, is the other house of the Parliament of India. It is the **upper house and an integral part of the Indian Parliament.**

Option 3 is incorrect: The Council of Ministers, consisting of various ministers appointed by the Prime Minister, is **not an integral component of the Parliament.** It is part of the executive branch of the Indian government. Executive is the branch of government responsible for the implementation of laws and policies adopted by the legislature.

Option 4 is correct: Along with Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, the **President of India too is an integral part of Parliament of India**. For this reason, a bill that has been approved by both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha only **becomes law after obtaining the President's assent.**

Option 5 is incorrect: The Attorney General of India is not an integral component of the Parliament, while he/she can take part in proceedings of the Parliament. The Attorney General is the **government's chief legal advisor** and represents the government in legal matters.

41. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Rajya Sabha, also known as the **Council of States**, is India's Upper House of Parliament. The Rajya Sabha currently has 245 members, and membership is limited to 250. The **State Assemblies (Vidhan Sabha) members elect 233 members, and the President nominates 12 others.**

Options 1, 2, 3 and 4 are correct. According to **Article 80(3) of the Indian Constitution**, the President of India is empowered to nominate 12 members to the Rajya Sabha (Council of States) who have made their mark in the fields **of science, art, literature, and social service.**

Option 5 is incorrect. Administration is not among the criteria for nomination to Rajya Sabha in the Constitution.

Important Tips

The Governor nominates **one-sixth of members in the State Legislative Council** with expertise or practical experience in subjects such as **literature, science, the arts, the cooperative movement, and social service.**

42. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

For the purpose of constituting the Lok Sabha, the whole country has been divided into **543 Parliamentary Constituencies**, each one of which elects one member. The members of the Lok Sabha are elected directly by the eligible voters.

Options 1 and 2 are correct. Some seats are reserved in Lok Sabha for the members of the Schedule Castes and Scheduled Tribes. As per the order issued by the Delimitation Commission in 2008, 412 are general, **84 seats are reserved for Scheduled Castes and 47 seats for the Scheduled Tribes.**

Option 3 is incorrect. There is **no reservation of seats for Backward classes** in Lok Sabha.

Option 4 is incorrect. The President of India used to nominate a maximum of two members as representatives of the Anglo-Indian community in Lok Sabha. In January 2020, the Anglo-Indian reserved seats in the Parliament and State Legislatures of India were abolished by the **104th Constitutional Amendment Act** of 2019.

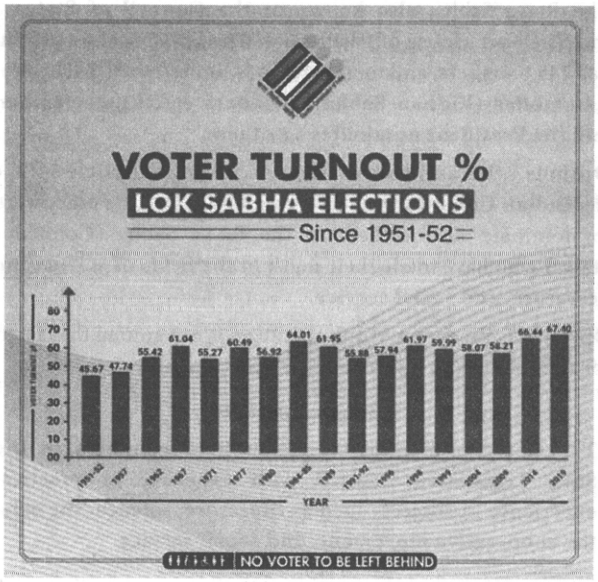
43. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

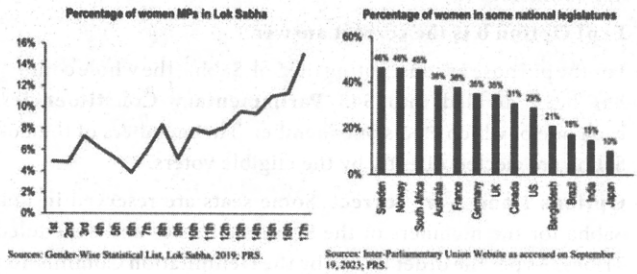
Lok Sabha elections are typically held every five years. The term of the Lok Sabha is five years unless dissolved earlier. India uses a **first-past-the-post electoral system for Lok Sabha** elections. In each constituency, the candidate with the most votes is declared the winner.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The **2019 Lok Sabha elections clocked a record turnout of 67.11%,** beating the previous turnout of 65.95% notched up in 2014, according to tentative data released by the Election Commission (EC).

Statement 2 is incorrect. The 2019 elections elected the 17th Lok Sabha. Currently, around **14% (78) of Lok Sabha MPs and around 10% (24) of Rajya Sabha MPs are women. The 17th Lok Sabha has the highest number of women politicians ever with a total of 78, which is nearly 14%.**



Slow rise in the representation of women in Lok Sabha



Sources: Gender-Wise Statistical List, Lok Sabha, 2019; PRS.

Sources: Inter-Parliamentary Union Website as accessed on September 19, 2023; PRS.

44. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Asymmetric federalism refers to federalism based on unequal powers and relationships between the parts that comprise a federation in political, administrative, and fiscal structures. Asymmetry in federation arrangements can be regarded in both **vertical (between the Centre and the states)** and **horizontal (among the states)** terms.

Statement I is correct. It is a political asymmetry that states are represented in the Rajya Sabha based on their population. As a result, states like Uttar Pradesh have 31 Rajya Sabha seats, whereas Meghalaya and Mizoram each have one.

Statement II is incorrect. The system of representation used in India for the Rajya Sabha differs from that used in the United States (each state has 2 Senators irrespective of their population). **In India, States are represented in Rajya Sabha in accordance with their population. It** is important to mention that there is a distinction between political asymmetries which pertains to differences between federal units demographically/geographically and the asymmetries conferred by the Constitution to regional states in terms of legislative and executive powers. India is an example for both of these asymmetries.

45. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The distinction in the exercise of certain important functions, such as enacting money bills and dealing with motions of no-confidence, between the **Lok Sabha (House of the People)** and the **Rajya Sabha (Council of States)** in India is a foundational aspect of the country's parliamentary democracy.

Statement I is correct. There are powers **that only the Lok Sabha exercises. The Rajya Sabha cannot initiate, reject or amend money bills.** The **Council of Ministers is responsible to the Lok Sabha and not Rajya Sabha**. Therefore, Rajya Sabha can criticize the government but cannot remove it.

Statement II is correct and correct explanation of Statement I. In a democratic system, as envisioned by our Constitution, the **ultimate authority rests with the people.** Accordingly, representatives directly elected by the people should possess essential powers related to government removal and financial control. Hence, as the Lok Sabha is directly elected by the people, it fulfills the principle of democratic system.

The Rajya Sabha is elected by State Legislative Assembly members, not directly by the general population. **Consequently, the Constitution refrained from granting certain powers to the Rajya Sabha.**

46. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

A member wishing to give notice of a resolution for the removal of the Speaker or Deputy Speaker should address it in writing to the Secretary General of Lok Sabha. The Secretary General is responsible for receiving and processing such notices. Once the motion for leave to move the resolution is received, it is entered into the list of business in the member's name, and the Speaker fixes a day for its discussion and debate, which must be at least fourteen days after the receipt of the notice.

47. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

A bill is a proposal for legislation and it becomes an act or law when duly enacted. Every ordinary bill has to pass through the following five stages in the Parliament before it finds a place on the Statute Book:

1. **First Reading** - The **introduction of the bill and its publication in the Gazette** constitute the first reading of the bill. No discussion on the bill takes place at this stage.

The member who wants to introduce the bill has to ask for the leave of the House. When the House grants leave to introduce the bill, the mover of the bill introduces it by reading its title and objectives. Later, the bill is published in the Gazette of India. If a bill is published in the Gazette before its introduction, leave of the House to introduce the bill is not necessary.

2. **Second Reading** - During this stage, the bill receives not only the general but also the detailed scrutiny and assumes its final shape. This stage involves **three more sub-stages, namely, stage of general discussion, committee stage and consideration stage.**

(a) **Stage of General Discussion** - The principles of the bill and its provisions are discussed generally, but the details of the bill are not discussed.

(b) Committee Stage - This committee examines the bill thoroughly and in detail, clause by clause. It can also amend its provisions, but without altering the principles underlying it.

(c) **Consideration Stage** - The House, after receiving the bill from the select committee, considers the provisions of the bill clause by clause. Each clause is discussed and voted upon separately. The members can also move amendments and if accepted, they become part of the bill.

3. **Third Reading** - At this stage, the debate is confined to the acceptance or rejection of the bill as a whole and no amendments are allowed. If the majority of members present and voting accept the bill, the bill is regarded as passed by the House and transmitted to the second House.
4. **Bill in the Second House** - the bill passes through all the three stages, that is, first reading, second reading and third reading.
5. **Assent of the President** - Every bill after being passed by both Houses of Parliament either singly or at a joint sitting, is presented to the president for his assent. If the president gives his assent to the bill, the bill becomes an act and is placed on the Statute Book.

So, for the given question the correct order would be: **Publication of the bill in the Gazette - Stage of General Discussion - Consideration Stage - Third Reading - Assent of the President.**

48. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is incorrect. Supplementary Grant is given when the amount authorised by the Parliament through the appropriation act for a particular service for the current financial year is found to be insufficient for that year.

Additional Grant is given when a need has arisen during the current financial year for additional expenditure upon some new service not contemplated in the budget for that year.

Pair 2 is correct. Token Grant is given when funds to meet the proposed expenditure on a new service can be made available by reappropriation. Reappropriation involves transfer of funds from one head to another. It does not involve any additional expenditure.

Pair 3 is correct. Vote of Credit is granted for meeting an unexpected demand upon the resources of India, when on account of the magnitude or the indefinite character of the service, the demand cannot be stated with the details ordinarily given in a budget. Hence, it is like a blank cheque given to the Executive by the Lok Sabha.

49. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) have been formulated under Article 118 of the Constitution wherein each House of Parliament is required to make rules for regulating its procedure and conduct of business.

Statement a is correct: The Rule 267, **gives special power to a Rajya Sabha member to ask for suspending the pre-decided agenda of the House,** with the approval of the Chairman. It says," Any member, may, with the consent of the Chairman, move that any rule may be suspended in its application to a motion related to the business listed before the Council of that day and if the motion is carried, the rule in question shall be suspended for the time being."

Statement b is incorrect: Rule 51A of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha states **regarding reduction in the limit of number of questions for oral answers** to 15 from existing 20. Whereas, Rule 267 says about the suspension of the pre-decided agenda in the council of the states.

Statement c is incorrect: Rule 256 of the rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business provides suspension of member (1) The Chairman may, if he deems it necessary, name a member who **disregards the authority of the Chair or abuses the rules of the Council** by persistently and willfully obstructing the business thereof. (2) If a member is so named by the Chairman, he shall forthwith put the question on a motion being made, no amendment, adjournment or debate being allowed, that the member (naming him) be **suspended from the service of the Council for a period not exceeding the remainder of the Session**: Provided that the Council may, at any time, on a motion being made, resolve that such suspension be terminated.

Statement d is incorrect: Rule 257 of the rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha provides **power of Chairman to adjourn Council** or suspend sitting in the case of grave disorder arising in the Council. Whereas, Whereas, Rule 267 says about the suspension of the pre-decided agenda in the council of the states.

50. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect- The **Estimates Committee** and not the Public Accounts Committee **examine the estimates included in the Annual Financial Statement.** The Public Accounts Committee's role is to assess the **yearly audit reports produced by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG),** which are presented to Parliament by the President. The CAG provides three reports to the **President,** encompassing audit reports on **appropriation accounts, finance accounts, and public undertakings.**

Statement 2 is correct- Currently, the Public Accounts Committee comprises **22 members,** with 15 selected from the **Lok Sabha** and 7 from the **Rajya Sabha.** These members are elected **annually** by **Parliament** from its own members, following the principle of **proportional representation** through the **single transferable vote.** This ensures that all political parties have equitable representation within the committee.

Statement 3 is incorrect- The Public Accounts Committee's chairman is chosen from its own members by the **Speaker.** Until the fiscal year 1966-67, the chairman of the committee

was typically a member of the ruling party. But since 1967, it has become custom for the chairman to be consistently **chosen from the opposition.**

Statement 4 is incorrect- The Public Accounts Committee's recommendations are advisory and not binding on the ministries.

51. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect- The **legislative council** is not empowered to **remove the council of ministers** through a **vote of no-confidence.** This is because the council of ministers is **collectively accountable solely to the legislative assembly.** However, the council retains the authority to deliberate upon and criticize the policies and actions of the government.

Statement 2 is incorrect- The legislative council does not have a role in the election of the President of India or the selection of representatives to the Rajya Sabha from the state. The President of India is elected by an electoral college consisting of:

1. **Elected members of both the houses of parliament.**
2. **Elected members of legislative assemblies of the state.**
3. **Elected members of the legislatures of Delhi and Pondicherry.**

Statement 3 is incorrect- The legislative council **lacks substantial influence** in the **approval of a constitutional amendment bill.** In this regard, the assembly's decision supersedes that of the council.

Statement 4 is correct- The status and power of the **legislative assembly is equal to that of the legislative council** in the **enlargement of the jurisdiction of the State Public Service Commission (SPSC).** This is important as it allows the legislature to ensure that the SPSC is able to effectively recruit civil servants for the state government. By giving both houses of the legislature equal powers in this matter, the Constitution ensures that the **SPSC is accountable to both houses.**

52. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

A Money Bill is a type of legislation in India that exclusively deals with financial matters, such as taxation, borrowing of money, expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India, or appropriation of funds. It is defined under Article 110 of the Indian Constitution.

Statement 1 is correct: A Money Bill can **only be introduced in the Lok Sabha,** and it requires the recommendation of the President. Each Money Bill is regarded as a government bill **and can only be introduced by a minister.**

Statement 2 is correct: Money Bills can also be introduced for matters related to the **custody of the Contingency Fund of India, and also including the payment into or withdrawal of money from the Consolidate Fund of India.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: When a Money Bill is presented to the President, **he/she may either give his/her assent to the bill or withhold his/her assent to the bill but cannot return the bill for reconsideration** of the Houses. Normally, the President gives his/her assent to a Money Bill as it is introduced in the Parliament with his/her prior permission.

53. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 93 of the **Indian Constitution** outlines the **role of the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.** The speaker serves as the chief **representative of the House** and holds the **highest authority within the lower house** of Parliament. The Speaker's position is esteemed for its **independence and neutrality**, and he holds the **seventh position in the Warrant of Precedence in India.**

Statement 1 is incorrect: As per the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, the **President** decides the **date of election** of the **Speaker** of Lok Sabha. The **Secretary-General of Lok Sabha secretariat sends notice regarding the date to every member.** The Speaker is elected by the Lok Sabha from amongst its members as soon as may be, after its first sitting.

Statement 2 is correct: Usually, the **Speaker** remains in **office** during the **life** of the **Lok Sabha.**

However, he must **vacate his office** earlier in **any of the following cases** -

1) if he **ceases to be** a **member of the Lok Sabha** and
2. if **he resigns by writing to the Deputy Speaker.**

Statement 3 is correct: The **Speaker of the Lok Sabha** can be **removed** from his office by **passing** a **resolution** with an **effective majority in the Lok Sabha.** As per Article 94(c), the speaker is removed by Lok Sabha by passing a resolution with a majority of all the then members of the House. This process is governed by the rules and procedures of the Lok Sabha.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Whenever the House of the People (Lok Sabha) is dissolved, the Speaker shall not vacate his office until immediately before the first meeting of the House of the People after the dissolution.

Important Tips

1. The Constitution of India gives the Lower House the authority to remove the Speaker. The Speaker can also be removed if they are disqualified from being a Lok Sabha member under sections 7 and 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.
2. The motion of removal can only be considered and discussed if it has the support of at least 50 members. The resolution must be moved after 14 days' notice.

54. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Indian Parliament is made up of two houses: the Lok Sabha i.e. lower house and the Rajya Sabha i.e. upper house. Parliament represents the diverse voices of the nation and upholds the principles of democracy through various mechanisms.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Adjournment is a temporary suspension of a legislative session with a set date to return. It

does not cause pending bills to lapse. The bills are simply put on hold until the session resumes.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Adjournment sine die means **adjourning a meeting for an indefinite period, without setting a specific date to reconvene**. While it **suspends the current session**, it **doesn't automatically lapse pending bills**. The presiding officer (Speaker or Chairperson) can still call for a meeting before the originally planned date or even after an adjournment sine die. In such cases, the **pending bills can be picked up and addressed in the resumed session**.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Prorogation signifies the formal ending of a legislative session by the executive branch. While it **brings the current session to a close, any pending bills are carried over** and **can be picked up for discussion when** the house reconvenes in a new session.

Statement 4 is correct: Dissolution is the disbanding of a legislature, typically at the end of its term. **Dissolution of LokSabha leads to the following consequences for the Bills:**

1.	A bill pending in the Lok Sabha	Lapses
2.	A bill passed by the Lok Sabha but pending in the Rajya Sabha	Lapses
3.	A bill not passed by the two Houses due to disagreement and if the president has notified the holding of a joint sitting before the dissolution of Lok Sabha	Does not Lapse
4.	A bill pending in the Rajya Sabha but not passed by the Lok Sabha	Does not Lapse
5.	A bill passed by both Houses but pending assent of the president	Does not Lapse
6.	A bill passed by both Houses but returned by the president for reconsideration of Houses	Does not Lapse

55. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Question hour and **zero hour** are important components of parliamentary proceedings in India. During question hour, which typically occurs at the beginning of a parliamentary session, Members of Parliament have the opportunity to pose questions to ministers regarding various aspects of government policies, programs, and administration. On the other hand, zero hour, an informal segment that follows question hour, provides MPs with the opportunity to raise urgent matters of public importance that may not have been scheduled for discussion.

Statement 1 is correct: Question hour is a structured period during a parliamentary session where Members of Parliament can ask questions to minister or private members regarding various aspects of government policy and administration. **It is explicitly mentioned and regulated in the Rules of Procedures whereas zero hour is not mentioned in the rules of procedure. Over the years, presiding officers of both Houses have given directions to streamline the working of Zero Hour to make it even more effective.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: During question hour, questions can be directed **not only to ministers but also to private members.** If the subject matter of the question pertains to a bill, resolution, or any other matter associated with the business of the House for which a private member is responsible, they can be addressed accordingly. The procedure for such questions follows the same guidelines as those addressed to ministers. **Questions can be asked during the Zero Hour to both private members and ministers.** This provides an opportunity for MPs to bring attention to urgent matters and seek responses from the government.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The first hour of every parliamentary sitting is generally allotted to the question hour (in 2014 the Question Hour **was shifted in the Rajya Sabha from 11 am to 12 noon**). The zero hour starts immediately after the question hour and lasts until the agenda for the day (i.e., regular business of the House) is taken up.

Important Tips

During question hour, questions are categorised into three types: starred, unstarred, and short notice.

1. A **starred question**, denoted by an asterisk, mandates an oral response, allowing for supplementary questions to be posed subsequently.
2. An **unstarred question** necessitates a written response, precluding the possibility of supplementary questions.
3. A **short notice question** is one submitted with less than ten days' notice and is also answered orally.

56. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The suspension of members of Lok Sabha can occur under certain circumstances outlined in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. Members may be suspended for actions such as disrupting proceedings, disobeying the authority of the Chair, or persistently obstructing the business of the House. Suspension can be initiated by the Speaker naming the member for their conduct, followed by a motion for suspension being put to a vote. If the motion is agreed upon, the member is suspended from the service of the House for a specified duration, which could include a set number of sittings or the remainder of the session.

Statement 1 is correct: Under Section 374A of the Rules of Lok Sabha, a member can indeed be suspended **without the necessity of passing a motion for suspension.** If a member causes grave disorder by entering the well of the House or persistently and willfully obstructing its business by shouting slogans or other means, the Speaker can name them. Upon being named, the member is automatically suspended from the

proceedings of the House for either five consecutive sittings or the remainder of the session, whichever is shorter.

Statement 2 is correct: When a member is suspended from the Lok Sabha he is removed from the service of the House. He is usually **barred from attending its sittings as well as meetings of committees or panels** of which they are members. A member suspended under Rule 374 and 374A must immediately leave the premises of the House.

Statement 3 is incorrect: A member can be suspended for **up to the remainder of the session only**, but not beyond that. A member's suspension cannot be continued to the next session of Parliament.

57. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Cabinet Committees are smaller groups of ministers within the government tasked with specific areas of responsibility. These committees are formed to facilitate detailed discussion and decision-making on important matters.

Option 1 is correct: Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs is headed by the Prime Minister of India. This committee deals with political issues and decisions of strategic importance. It discusses matters related to domestic and international political affairs, national security, and other sensitive political issues.

Option 2 is correct: Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs is also **headed by the Prime Minister of India.** It is responsible for making decisions on economic policies, including those related to financial stability, economic growth, investment, pricing of essential commodities, and overall economic management.

Option 3 is incorrect: Cabinet Committee on Accommodation is headed by the Minister of Home Affairs. This committee oversees the allotment of residential accommodation to government officials, ministers, and other dignitaries. It ensures fair and efficient distribution of government housing resources.

Option 4 is correct: Cabinet Committee on Investment and Growth is also headed by **Prime Minister of India.** This committee focuses on formulating strategies and policies to promote investment, stimulate economic growth, and address challenges hindering economic development. It may discuss issues related to infrastructure development, industrial growth, and attracting foreign investment.

Option 5 is incorrect: At present, **the Minister of Defence is the chairperson of Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs.** This committee deals with matters related to the functioning of Parliament. It coordinates the government's legislative agenda, manages parliamentary sessions, and attempts to ensure smooth conduct of government business in the Parliament.

58. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Parliamentary privileges refer to special rights and exemptions granted to members of the Lok Sabha (House of the People) and Rajya Sabha (Council of States) under the Constitution of India. Articles 105 and 122 of the Indian Constitution specifically deal with these privileges. The Solicitor General of India is the second-highest law officer who assists the Attorney General, and advises the government on legal matters.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Parliamentary privileges don't extend to the Solicitor General of India as he doesn't have the right to participate in parliamentary proceedings whereas Attorney General and Union ministers have the right **to publish debates and have immunity from legal actions for speeches in the Parliament, etc.**

Statement 2 is correct: Parliamentary privilege protects parliament members from arrest within the house precincts without the permission of the presiding officer.

No criminal or civil proceedings can be initiated within the precincts of the Parliament House without the permission of the presiding officer.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Members of Parliament enjoy immunity for speeches made during the proceedings of the Parliament, allowing them to express their opinions freely within the legislative context. However, **this immunity does not extend to speeches made outside Parliament** or those that are unrelated to parliamentary duties. In such cases, legal actions can be initiated based on the content of the speech, subject to applicable laws.

59. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct- The Constitution **does not contain any provisions for resolving deadlock between the two Houses of the state legislature** via a **joint sitting** . However, there is a provision for a **joint sitting of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha** to settle disputes on an **ordinary bill** through the joint sitting. The **President calls** for a Joint sitting of the parliament in case there is a deadlock, and the **Speaker presides** over the joint sitting. Furthermore, if a bill initiated in the Legislative council is rejected by the Legislative assembly, the bill is effectively terminated and becomes void.

Statement 2 is correct- The Constitutional amendment Bill under **Article 368** can be **introduced only in Parliament** and **not in State Legislature.** This bill can be brought forward by a **minister or a private member** and **doesn't need prior approval from the president.** Once it's passed by both Houses of Parliament and, if needed, **ratified by state legislatures,** it's **then presented to the president for approval.**

Statement 3 is incorrect- An **ordinary bill** can be introduced in either **House of Parliament** as well as either house of **state legislature (if bicameral).**

60. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **institutions of Speaker and Deputy Speaker originated in India in 1921 under the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1919 (Montague-Chelmsford Reforms).** At that time, the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker were called the President and Deputy President respectively and the same nomenclature continued till 1947.

Important Tips

- Before 1921, the Governor-General of India used to preside over the meetings of the Central Legislative Council.
- In 1921, the Frederick Whyte and Sachidanand Sinha were appointed by the Governor-General of India as the first Speaker and the first Deputy Speaker (respectively) of the central legislative assembly.
- In 1925, Vithalbhai J. Patel became the first Indian and the first elected Speaker of the central legislative assembly.
- The Government of India Act of 1935 changed the nomenclatures of President and Deputy President of the Central Legislative Assembly to the Speaker and Deputy Speaker respectively. However, the old nomenclature continued till 1947 as the federal part of the 1935 Act was not implemented.
- G.V. Mavalankar and Ananthasayanam Ayyangar had the distinction of being the first Speaker and the first Deputy Speaker (respectively) of the Lok Sabha.

61. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The first Parliamentary Forum on Water Conservation and Management was constituted in the year 2005. Thus, it does not trace its origin to the Government of India Act 1935.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Speaker of Lok Sabha is the ex-officio President of all the Forums except the Parliamentary Forum on Population and Public Health wherein the Chairman of Rajya Sabha is the ex-officio President and the Speaker is the ex-officio Co-President.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Parliamentary forums aim to provide a platform to the Members of Parliament (and not general public) to have interactions with the ministers concerned, experts and key officials from the nodal ministries.

62. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

According to theory of collective ministerial responsibility, **the Ministers are responsible to the House of the People.** It is a business of the House of the People to see that the Cabinet remains in power so long as it retains the confidence of the majority in that House. It is explicitly expressed in **Art. 75 (3)** of our Constitution. **Art. 75 (3) reads "The Council of Ministers shall be collectively responsible to the House of the People".**

The principle of collective responsibility also means that the Cabinet decisions bind all cabinet ministers even if they differed in the cabinet meeting. It is the duty of every minister to stand by cabinet decisions and support them both within and outside the Parliament.

63. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

At present, the Rajya Sabha has 245 members. Of these, 229 members represent the states, 4 members represent the union territories, and 12 members are nominated by the president. The **Fourth Schedule** of the Constitution deals with the allocation of seats in the Rajya Sabha to the states and union territories

Statement 1 is correct: The **representatives of a union territory in the Rajya Sabha** are indirectly elected by **members of an electoral college specially constituted for this purpose. Whereas the representatives of states** in the Rajya Sabha are elected by **the elected members of state legislative assemblies.**

Statement 2 is correct: This election is **held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.** Method of election is same in State and Union Territories.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Out of the eight union territories, **three union territories (Delhi, Puducherry and Jammu & Kashmir)** have representation in Rajya Sabha. The populations of other six union territories are too small to have any representative in the Rajya Sabha.

64. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

A person elected to be a member of Parliament can be disqualified either under the provisions of the constitution or the Representation of People's Act (1951).

Statements 1, 3 and 4 are correct: Under the Constitution, a person shall be disqualified from being elected as a member of Parliament in the following cases.

1. if he holds any office of profit under the Union or state government (except that of a minister or any other office exempted by Parliament).
2. **if he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a court.**
3. **if he is an undischarged insolvent.**
4. if he is not a citizen of India or has voluntarily acquired the citizenship of a foreign state or **is under any acknowledgement of allegiance to a foreign state;** and
5. if he is so disqualified under any law made by Parliament.

Statement 2 is correct: Other than the Constitution, many conditions of disqualification have been given in the **Representation of People Act (1951).** Such as-

1. He must not have been found guilty of certain election offences or corrupt practices in the elections.
2. He must not have been convicted for any offence resulting in imprisonment for two or more years. But, the detention of a person under a preventive detention law is not a disqualification.
3. He must not have failed to lodge an account of his election expenses within the time.
4. He must not have any interest in government contracts, works or services.
5. He must not be a director or managing agent nor hold an office of profit in a corporation in which the government has at least 25 per cent share.

6. He must not have been dismissed from government service for corruption or disloyalty to the State.
7. **He must not have been convicted for promoting enmity between different groups** or for the offence of bribery.
8. He must not have been punished for preaching and practicing social crimes such as untouchability, dowry and sati.

65. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Each House of Parliament has its own presiding officer. There is a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker for the Lok Sabha and a Chairman and a Deputy Chairman for the Rajya Sabha. A **panel of chairpersons for the Lok Sabha** and a panel of vice-chairpersons for the Rajya Sabha is also appointed.

Statement 1 is correct: The Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha provide that at the commencement of the House or from time to time, as the case may be, the **Speaker shall nominate from amongst the Members a Panel of not more than ten Chairpersons.**

Statement 2 is correct: Any one member of the panel of chairpersons may preside over the House in the absence of the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker. A Chairperson so nominated, holds office until a new Panel of Chairpersons is nominated, unless he/she resigns earlier from the Panel or is appointed a Minister or elected as Deputy Speaker. **The Minister cannot be a member of the panel of chairpersons. Overall, a minister cannot preside over the house in any capacity.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: A member of the panel of chairpersons **cannot preside over the House, when the office of the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker is vacant.** During such time, the Speaker's duties are to be performed by such members of the House as the **President** may appoint for the purpose.

66. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Each House of Parliament has separate secretarial staff of its own, though there can be some posts common to both the Houses. Their recruitment and service conditions are regulated by Parliament.

Statement 1 is correct: As per article 98, each House of Parliament has separate secretarial staff of its own, though **there can be some posts common to both the Houses.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The secretariat of each House is headed by a **Secretary-General**. He is appointed by the **presiding officer of the House (Not President of India).**

Statement 3 is incorrect: He is a **permanent officer. His tenure is not directly related to the duration of Lok Sabha.** The Speaker, Lok Sabha is assisted by the Secretary-General, Lok Sabha, whose pay scale, position and status etc. is equivalent to that of the highest ranking official in the Government of India i.e., Cabinet Secretary.

67. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The president from time to time summons each House of Parliament to meet. But, the maximum gap between two sessions of Parliament cannot be more than six months. A sitting of Parliament can be terminated by adjournment or adjournment sine die or prorogation or dissolution.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Prorogation is done by President of India, whereas **Adjournment is done by the presiding officer of the House.** A sitting of Parliament can be terminated by adjournment or adjournment sine die or prorogation or dissolution.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Prorogation not only terminates a sitting but also a session of the House, whereas Adjournment only terminates a sitting and not a session of the House.

Statement 3 is correct: Adjournment does not affect the bills or any other business pending before the House and the same can be resumed when the House meets again. **Prorogation also does not affect the bills or any other business** pending before the House. However, all pending notices (other than those for introducing bills) lapse on prorogation and fresh notices have to be given for the next session. In Britain, prorogation brings to an end all bills or any other business pending before the House.

68. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Speaker is the head of the Lok Sabha and its representative. He is the guardian of the powers and privileges of the members. He is the principal spokesman of the House, and his decision in all Parliamentary matters is final.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Usually, the Speaker remains in office during the life of the Lok Sabha. However, he has to vacate his office earlier in any of the following three cases:

1. if he ceases to be a member of the Lok Sabha;
2. **if he resigns by writing to the Deputy Speaker; (and not to the President)**
3. Such a resolution can be moved only after giving 14 days' advance notice.

Statement 2 is incorrect: When a resolution for the removal of the Speaker is under consideration of the House, **he cannot preside at the sitting of the House**, though he may be present. However, he can speak and take part in the proceedings of the House at such a time and **vote in the first instance, though not in the case of an equality of votes.**

Statement 3 is correct: The Supreme Court is the final authority for the interpretation of the Constitution. The Speaker is also the final interpreter of the provisions of the Constitution of India **but only within the house.**

Statement 4 is correct: He is given a very high position in the order of precedence. **He is placed at seventh rank, along with the Chief Justice of India.** He has a higher rank than all cabinet ministers, **except** the Prime Minister or Deputy Prime Minister.

69. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Delimitation is the act of redrawing boundaries of Lok Sabha and State Assembly seats to represent changes in population. The main objective of delimitation is to provide equal representation to equal segments of a population. The Delimitation Commission is **appointed by the President** of India. It is composed of the following: a retired Supreme Court judge, the Chief Election Commissioner of India and respective State Election Commissioners.

Statement 1 is correct: The orders issued by the delimitation commission cannot be challenged in any court. Central Government and ECI have told the Supreme Court with reference to a plea that challenges the move of the delimitation commission of redrawing poll constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir, that provisions under the **Delimitation Act, 2002 bars challenge** to the orders of the Commission **once they are published in the Gazette of India.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Present distribution of seats in Parliament is **based on the 1971 census.** The **representation from each State is not changed by** Delimitation Act, 2002. However, the present delimitation of constituencies (area wise) has been done on the basis of 2001 census under the provisions of Delimitation Act, 2002. The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 had frozen total number of seats till the year 2000 **at the 1971 level**. This ban on readjustment has been extended for another years **(up to year 2026)** by the 84th Amendment Act of 2001 based on **1971 census** with the same objective of encouraging population limiting measures.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Delimitation Commission (Not the Election Commission) is tasked with identifying seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The **Delimitation** Commission is supposed to **determine the number and boundaries of constituencies** in a way that the population of all seats, so far as practicable, is the same.

70. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

A person elected to be a member of Parliament shall have some qualifications under the provisions of the constitution and the Representation of People Act (1951).

Statement 2 is correct: The Constitution lays down the following qualifications for a person to be chosen a member of the Parliament:

1. He must be a citizen of India.
2. He must make and subscribe to an oath or affirmation before the person authorized by the election commission for this purpose. In his oath or affirmation, he swears

a. To bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India

b. To uphold the sovereignty and integrity of India

3. **He must be not less than 30 years of age in the case of the Rajya Sabha and not less than 25 years of age in the case of the Lok Sabha.**
4. He must possess other qualifications prescribed by Parliament.

Statement 1 and 3 are correct: Some provisions for qualification are **not given in the Constitution**. These provisions are **given in the Representation of People Act (1951).**

1. **He must be registered as an elector for a parliamentary constituency**. This is same in the case of both, the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha. The requirement that a candidate contesting an election to the Rajya Sabha from a particular state should be an elector in that particular state was dispensed with in 2003. In 2006, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of this change.
2. **He must be a member of a scheduled caste or scheduled tribe in any state or union territory, if he wants to contest a seat reserved for them**. However, a member of scheduled castes or scheduled tribes can also contest a seat not reserved for them.

71. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The House (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) expresses its decisions or opinions on various issues through the adoption or rejection of motions moved by either ministers or private members.

Statement 1 is correct: Privilege Motion is concerned with the **breach of parliamentary privileges by a minister.** It is moved by a member when he feels that a minister has committed a breach of privilege of the House or one or more of its members by withholding facts of a case or by giving wrong or distorted facts. Its **purpose is to censure the minister concerned.**

Rule No 222 in Chapter 20 of the Lok Sabha Rule Book and correspondingly Rule 187 in Chapter 16 of the Rajya Sabha rulebook governs privilege. Rules say that a member may, with the consent of the Speaker or the Chairperson, **raise a question involving a breach of privilege either of a member or of the House or a committee thereof.**

Statement 2 is correct: Article 75 of the Constitution says that the council of ministers shall be collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha. It means that the ministry stays in office so long as it enjoys confidence of the majority of the members of the Lok Sabha. In other words, the Lok Sabha can remove the ministry from office by passing a no-confidence motion. The motion needs the support of 50 members to be admitted. It **can be moved against the entire council of ministers only.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: Calling Attention Motion is introduced in the Parliament by a member to call the attention of a minister to a matter of urgent public importance, and **to seek an authoritative statement from him on that matter.** Calling Attention Motion has no censure element in it, so Council of Ministers need not to resign on the event of passage of this motion.

Censure Motion is moved for censuring the council of ministers for specific policies and actions.

Statement 4 is correct: Adjournment Motion is introduced in the Parliament to draw attention of the House to a definite matter of urgent public importance, and needs the support of 50 members to be admitted. As it interrupts the normal business of the House, it is regarded as an extraordinary device. It involves an element of censure against the government and **hence Rajya Sabha is not permitted to make use of this device.**

72. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In a parliamentary system of government, bills are proposed laws or legislative proposals that are introduced in parliament.

Statement 1 is correct: Ordinary Bills can be introduced either in the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha. It **can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member**. Money Bills can be introduced only in the Lok Sabha and not in the Rajya Sabha. It **can be introduced only by a minister.**

Statement 2 is correct: Money Bill requires the **certification of the Speaker when transmitted to the Rajya Sabha.** An ordinary bill does not require the certification of the Speaker when transmitted to the Rajya Sabha (if it has originated in the Lok Sabha).

73. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The budget consists of two types of expenditure—the expenditure 'charged' upon the **Consolidated Fund of India** and the expenditure 'made' from the Consolidated Fund of India.

Option 1, 2, 3 and 4 are correct: The charged expenditure is non-votable by the Parliament, that is, it can only be discussed by the Parliament, while the other type has to be voted by the Parliament. The list of the charged expenditure is as follows:

1. **Emoluments and allowances of the President** and other expenditure relating to his office.
2. Salaries and allowances of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
3. Salaries, allowances and pensions of the judges of the Supreme Court.
4. **Pensions of the judges of high courts.**
5. **Salary, allowances and pension of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India**
6. Salaries, allowances and pension of the chairman and members of the Union Public Service Commission.
7. **Administrative expenses** of the Supreme Court, the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the **Union Public Service Commission** including the salaries, allowances and pensions of the persons serving in these offices.
8. The debt charges for which the Government of India is liable, including interest, sinking fund charges and redemption charges and other expenditure relating to the raising of loans and the service and redemption of debt.
9. Any sum required to satisfy any judgement, decree or award of any court or arbitral tribunal.
10. Any other expenditure declared by the Parliament to be so charged

Option 5 is incorrect: Expenses incurred by the office of Attorney General of India are not charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India. The remuneration of the AG is not fixed by the Constitution. He receives such remuneration as the president may determine.

74. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

In addition to the budget that contains the ordinary estimates of income and expenditure for one financial year, various other grants are made by the Parliament under extraordinary or special circumstances.

Pair 1 is incorrectly matched: Excess Grant is granted when money has been **spent on any service during a financial year in excess of the amount granted for that service in the budget for that year.** It is voted by the Lok Sabha after the financial year. Before the demands for excess grants are submitted to the Lok Sabha for voting, they must be approved by the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament.

Pair 2 is correctly matched: Additional Grant is granted when a need has arisen during the current financial year for **additional expenditure upon some new service not contemplated in the budget for that year.**

Pair 3 is incorrectly matched: Vote of Credit is **granted for meeting an unexpected demand upon the resources of India,** when on account of the magnitude or the indefinite character of the service, the demand cannot be stated with the details ordinarily given in a budget. Hence, it is like a blank cheque given to the Executive by the Lok Sabha.

75. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

In the context of the Indian Parliament, **Rajya Sabha gets some additional powers**. For instance, it needs to pass a resolution before creating a new All India Service (AIS). Similarly, **as per Article 249 of the Constitution, Rajya Sabha can pass a special resolution regarding legislation by the Parliament on a State subject.**

Statement-I is correct: Article 249 provides that **If Rajya Sabha passes a resolution with the support of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting,** stating that it is necessary or advisable in the national interest for Parliament to legislate on a subject listed in the **'State List'**, then Parliament can make laws on that subject. Such a resolution remains in force for a period not exceeding one year. However, the Rajya Sabha may pass successive resolutions for the continuance in force of the original resolution.

Statement-II is correct: Rajya Sabha is an institutional mechanism to protect the interests of the State. Members of the Rajya Sabha are elected by the Members of the State Legislative Assembly. So, **it is the prerogative of Rajya Sabha to protect the interests of the State.**

Statement-II is the correct explanation of Statement-I: If the Parliament wishes to enact a law on the matters contained in the State List, it may be perceived as curtailment in the state's legislative powers. But sometimes, in the national interest, it becomes expedient to do so. One of the objectivess of Rajya Sabha is to safeguard the interests of the States. **Any matter which affects the interests of the States requires an approval of Rajya Sabha.** Hence, Statement-II correctly explains the rationale of Statement-I.

76. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Closure motion is moved by a member to **cut short the debate on a matter** before the House. If the motion is approved by the House, debate is stopped forthwith and the matter is put to vote.

Pair 1 is correctly matched: Simple Closure is closing debate when a member moves it when the 'matter having been **sufficiently discussed** be now put to vote'.

Pair 2 is correctly matched: Closure by Compartment happens when the clauses of a bill or a **lengthy resolution** are **grouped into parts** before the commencement of the debate. The debate covers the part as a whole and the entire part is put to vote.

Pair 3 is incorrectly matched: Guillotine Closure is one when the undiscussed clauses of a bill or a resolution are also put to vote along with the discussed ones **due to want of time** (as the time **allotted for the discussion is over**).

Pair 4 is incorrectly matched: Kangaroo Closure happens only when **important clauses are taken up for debate and voting** and the intervening clauses are skipped over and taken as passed.

77. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In India, the Parliament is primarily responsible for making laws and legislation, while the judiciary is responsible for interpreting and enforcing those laws. However, the Parliament does have certain judicial powers and functions that it can perform under certain circumstances.

Statement 1, 3 and 4 are correct: The judicial powers and functions of the Parliament include the following:

(a) It can impeach the President for the violation of the Constitution.

(b) It **can remove the Vice-President from his office.**

(c) It can **recommend the removal** of judges (including chief justice) of the Supreme Court and the high courts, **chief election commissioner**, comptroller and auditor general to the president.

(d) It can **punish its members or outsiders for the breach of its privileges or its contempt.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Parliament is vested with the powers to amend the Constitution by way of addition, variation or repeal of any provision. It is the **constituent power of the Parliament**.

Statement 5 is incorrect: The Parliament scrutinises government spending and financial performance with the help of its financial committees. It is one of the **financial power and functions of the Parliament.**

78. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Parliamentary privileges are special rights, immunities and exemptions enjoyed by the two Houses of Parliament, their committees and their members. They are necessary in order to secure the independence and effectiveness of their actions.

Statement 1 is correct: Originally, the Constitution (Article 105) mentioned **two privileges, that is, freedom of speech in Parliament and right of publication of its proceedings.** With regard to other privileges, it provided that they were to be the same as those of the British House of Commons, its committees and its members on the date of its commencement of Constitution (i.e., 26 January, 1950), until defined by Parliament. The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 provided that the other privileges of each House of Parliament, its committees and its members are to be those which they had on the date of its commencement (i.e., 20 June, 1979), until defined by Parliament.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Constitution has extended the parliamentary privileges to those persons who are entitled to speak and take part in the proceedings of a House of Parliament or any of its committees. These **include the attorney general of India** and Union ministers. It must be clarified here that the **parliamentary privileges do not extend to the president** who is also an integral part of the Parliament.

Statement 3 is correct: The **Indian Parliament has not yet made any special law to exhaustively codify all the privileges enjoyed by its members**. The privileges of the Parliament are derived from various sources, including the Constitution, the rules of procedure, and the customs and traditions of the House.

79. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

In India, the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha are the two houses of the Parliament, with the Lok Sabha being the lower house and the Rajya Sabha being the upper house. While both houses have important roles in the legislative process, there are some key differences in their constitutional positions and powers.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The power to recommend to the President for the removal of Chief Justice and judges of Supreme Court and high courts, chief election commissioner and comptroller and auditor general are **equal to both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha**. The President can issue the removal order only after an address by Parliament has been presented to him in the same session for such removal. The address must be supported by a special majority of each House of Parliament (i.e., a majority of the total membership of that House and a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting).

Statement 2 is incorrect: A **resolution for the discontinuance of the national emergency can be passed only by the Lok Sabha and not by the Rajya Sabha**. The emergency must be revoked if the Lok Sabha passes a resolution by a simple majority disapproving its continuation. There is no provision for resolution for the discontinuance of the national emergency by Rajya Sabha.

Statement 3 is correct: According to Article 312 of the Indian Constitution, the Rajya Sabha (the upper house of Parliament) has the **power to authorize the Parliament to create new All-India Services that are common to both the Centre** (i.e., the federal government) and the states.

80. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

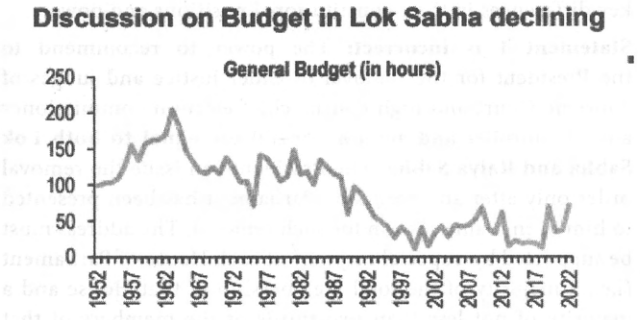
On May 13, 2022, Parliament completes 70 years since its first sitting. The first session of the first Lok Sabha (LS) and Rajya Sabha (RS) commenced on May 13, 1952. Currently, the 17th Lok Sabha (2019-2024) is running.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The first no-confidence motion in the history of Lok Sabha was moved against **Jawaharlal Nehru by J B Kripalani, also known as Acharya Kripalani, in August 1963.**

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi faced the most no-confidence motions (15), followed by Lal Bahadur Shastri and P. V. Narasimha Rao (three each), Morarji Desai (two) and Jawaharlal Nehru, Rajiv Gandhi, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Narendra Modi (one each).

Statement 2 is incorrect: In 1989, three Standing Committees were constituted which dealt with Agriculture, Science and Technology and Environment and Forests. In 1993, it was finally decided to set up seventeen Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees to cover various Ministries/Departments of the Union Government in order to further strengthen the accountability of the Government to Parliament. With the addition of seven more Committees in July 2004, the number of Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committees was raised to 24 out of which 8 were placed within the jurisdiction of the Chairman, Rajya Sabha and 16 within the jurisdiction of the Speaker, Lok Sabha.

Statement 3 is incorrect: From the below graph, we can assume that average time spent by the Lok Sabha on discussing the budget is not continuously increasing or decreasing and there has been a roller coaster pattern.



81. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The given explanation deals with **'Estimates Committee'.** It was constituted in 1950, on the recommendation of the then Finance Minister **John Mathai.** At present, it has **30 members- all from the Lok Sabha only.** In other words, Rajya Sabha has no representation in this Committee. Members of this committee are elected amongst Lok Sabha members in accordance with the principle of proportional representation by means of single transferable vote.

The primary function of this committee is to examine the estimates included in the Budget. It is also expected to suggest 'economies' in the public expenditure. Because of this, it is also called a **'continuous economy committee'.** Other functions of this committee:

1. To report what economies, improvements in organization can be affected based on the policy underlying estimates.
2. To suggest alternative policies to bring economy and efficiency in the administration.
3. To assess if requisite money is laid out within the limits of policy underlying the estimates

82. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Both the adjournment and prorogation suspend the proceedings of the House. However, there are vital differences between these two concepts.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Adjournment is declared by the Presiding officers of the respective Houses, **whereas Prorogation is done by an order of President of India.** The President declares the prorogation, generally after the declaration of adjournment sine die.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Adjournment may signify temporary suspension of the day's proceedings. It is also used to suspend a sitting for a specified time. Adjournment sine die means adjourning the proceedings of the House for an indefinite period. **On the other hand, prorogation is used to suspend the session of the House (and not for Lok Sabha dissolution).** Hence, the given statement is incorrect.

83. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. Legislature is not merely a lawmaking body. It is the centre of all democratic political process. Indeed, a genuine democracy is inconceivable without a representative, efficient and effective legislature.

Statement 2 is correct. The legislature also helps people in holding the representatives accountable. This is, indeed, the very basis of representative democracy.

84. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Vice President of India is the ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. Speaker is the presiding officer of the Lok Sabha. They both are entrusted with the responsibility to conduct the proceedings of the House and to maintain order and decorum in the House.

Statement 1 is correct: Only members of Lok Sabha vote in the election of the Speaker, whereas the **Vice President of India** (who is also the Chairman of Rajya Sabha) is **elected by the members of both the Houses of the Parliament.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The salaries and allowances of the Chairman of Rajya Sabha and Speaker of Lok Sabha are **not decided based on their ranks in the 'table of precedence'.** The table of precedence is a protocol list that determines the order of ranking, seating arrangement at official events, etc.

Salaries and allowances are determined by specific laws and regulations, such as The Salaries and Allowances of the Officers of the Parliament Act of 1953 and are not linked to their rankings in the 'table of precedence'.

Statement 3 is correct: The Speaker of Lok Sabha is allowed to vote in the first instance when a resolution for his removal is under consideration as he/she is a member of the Lower House of the parliament. **Such a privilege is not available to the Chairman of Rajya Sabha as he is not the member to the Upper House of the parliament.**

85. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

Different kinds of decisions, resolutions, motions, constitutional amendments require different kinds of majority, which are generally classified as- simple majority, absolute majority, effective majority and special majority.

Statement a is incorrect: A majority of more than 50% of the members present and voting, is called as simple majority. It is also known as Functional or Working majority. In the absence of any information in the law, a motion is passed using special majority only.

Statement b is incorrect: A majority of more than 50% of the total strength of the House, is called as absolute majority. For instance, the total membership of Lok Sabha is 545, so absolute majority will be (50%*545 + 1) 273 votes.

Statement c is incorrect: Generally, **a special majority** is any majority which is different from simple, absolute and effective majority. This voting mechanism is used, for instance, to pass a Rajya Sabha resolution to empower the Parliament to make laws in the State List.

Statement d is correct: A majority of more than 50% of the strength of the House, excluding vacancies, is known as effective majority. For instance, if there are 5 vacancies in Rajya Sabha, then effective majority would be (50%*(245-5)+1)= 121 members. This type of majority is needed to be passed by Rajya Sabha for the removal of Vice President.

86. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. A Member shall, on being named by the Speaker, stand automatically suspended from the service of the House in the event of grave disorder-which includes:

- Member coming into the well of the House or
- abusing the Rules of the House persistently and wilfully obstructing its business by shouting slogans or otherwise.

Unlike the Speaker, the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha does not have the power to directly suspend a member. The only method to suspend a member in Rajya Sabha is to pass a motion to that effect.

Statement 2 is correct. Rule Number 374 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business provides that that the House may, at any time, on a motion being made, resolve that the suspension of a member be terminated.

Statement 3 is correct. A member can be suspended, at the maximum, for the remainder of the session only. In an extreme case of misconduct, the House may expel a member from the House.

87. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Every political party, whether ruling or Opposition has its own whip in the Parliament.

Statement 2 is correct. Whip is appointed by the political party to serve as an assistant floor leader. S/he is charged with the responsibility of ensuring the attendance of his party members in large numbers and regulates and monitors behavior of members of the political party in the Parliament.

88. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

A member can **raise a point of order** when the proceedings of the House do not follow the normal rules of procedure. A point of order should relate to the interpretation or enforcement of the Rules of the House or such articles of the Constitution that regulate the business of the House and should raise a question that is within the cognizance of the Speaker. It is usually raised by an opposition member in order to control the government. It is an extraordinary device as it suspends the proceedings before the House. No debate is allowed on a point of order.

89. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Parliamentary Privileges are special rights, immunities, and exemptions enjoyed by the two houses of Parliament, their committees, and their members.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Members of the Parliament cannot be arrested during the session of Parliament and 40 days before the beginning and 40 days after the end of a session. This privilege is available only in civil cases and not in criminal cases or preventive detention cases.

Statement 2 is correct. Members of the Parliament are exempted from jury service. They can refuse to give evidence and appear as a witness in a case pending in a court when Parliament is in session.

Statement 3 is correct. Members of the Parliament have freedom of speech in Parliament. No member is liable to any proceedings in any court for anything said or any vote given by him in Parliament or its committees.

90. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement I is correct: The **Lok Sabha** is the lower house of India's Parliament and is directly elected by the people. This direct mandate gives it **more authority and influence over the executive.**

A no-confidence motion, can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha, forcing the government to resign if it loses the majority. It also plays a crucial role in the passage of the budget and financial matters, as money bills can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha. **This level of direct control is not present in the Rajya Sabha (the upper house).**

Statement II is correct: An **adjournment motion** is a motion that is used to draw the attention of the house to a definite matter of **urgent public importance**. This motion can **only be introduced in the Lok Sabha,** not in the Rajya Sabha, as it involves element of censure against the government. The Lok Sabha, being the house that exercises greater control over the executive, holds this privilege.

Statement III is correct: Although it is true that the numerical strength of Lok Sabha is greater than Rajya Sabha, but it does not have a bearing on the control over the executive as the passing of any bills or motions depends on the majority of each house of their own.

Hence, **Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct but only statement II explains Statement-I.**

91. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

As per Article 94 (b) of the Constitution of India, A member holding office as Speaker of the House of the People may at any time, by writing under his hand addressed to the Deputy Speaker resign his office.

92. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The **Question Hour** is an integral part of the parliamentary proceedings in both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. It is during the Question Hour that the members can ask questions on every aspect of administration and Governmental activity. The procedure for dealing with questions during Question Hour is governed by the **Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business** of respective house of Parliament.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **first hour** of a parliamentary sitting is **generally allocated** to **Question Hour**, but **it is not always the case**. For instance:

- In the **Lok Sabha**, Question Hour is traditionally held in the first hour (11:00 a.m.–12:00 noon) of the sitting.
- However, In the **Rajya Sabha**, since 2014, the Question Hour has been shifted from 11:00 a.m to **12:00 noon.**

Moreover, **Question Hour** may not take place during special sittings, sessions dedicated to other agendas. This demonstrates that **it is not mandatory for the first hour of every sitting to always allocate Question Hour.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Not all questions during the Question Hour are answered orally. Questions in Parliament are categorized into three types:

- **Starred questions**: These **require an oral answer** in the House, and members can ask **supplementary questions**.
- **Unstarred questions**: These are **answered in writing** and do not involve any verbal response during the session. Hence, no supplementary questions can be asked.
- **Short notice questions:** These are asked with less than ten days' notice and are generally **answered orally**.

Statement 3 is correct: While **most questions** during the Question Hour **are directed at ministers, private members can also be addressed questions under certain conditions**. Specifically, a question may be directed to a private member if the subject matter of the question relates to a Bill, Resolution, or any other business that the private member is responsible for in the House

93. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

Under the Constitution of India, the Parliament comprises three parts: the President, the Council of States (Rajya Sabha), and the House of the People (Lok Sabha). The Rajya Sabha is a permanent body and is not subject to dissolution. However, one-third of its members retire every two years, ensuring continuity.

The Constitution has not fixed the tenure of office of members of the Rajya Sabha and left it to the Parliament. **Accordingly, the Parliament in the Representation of the People Act (1951) provided that the term of office of a member of the Rajya Sabha shall be six years.**

94. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Option d is correct: The group of States/Union Territories that has only one seat in the Lok Sabha includes **Chandigarh, Sikkim, and Mizoram.**

The number of seats in the Lok Sabha varies for different states and union territories based on factors such as population.

Option a, b and c are incorrect: Goa, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur have two seats each in Lok Sabha.

95. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

As per **Article 106** of the Indian Constitution, Members of Parliament (MPs) in either house is entitled to receive salaries and allowances, the amounts of which are determined by Parliament through legislation.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution of India empowers **Parliament** to determine salaries and allowances of MPs **through a legislation (Not by President of India)**. In line with this, the **Salary, Allowances, and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954** was enacted to regulate these entitlements.

Statement 2 is correct: There was no provision of pension in the Constitution. Under **Salary, Allowances, and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954** there is provision of pension for **every person who has served for any period as a member of Parliament.**

It also says provided that where a person has served as a member of the Provisional Parliament or either House of Parliament for a period exceeding five years, there shall be paid to him an additional pension for every year served in excess of five years.

Statement 3 is incorrect: MPs are entitled **to a daily allowance only during the sessions of Parliament**, not for their entire tenure.

96. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Each House of Parliament has separate secretarial staff of its own, though there can be some posts common to both

the Houses. Their recruitment and service conditions are regulated by Parliament. The secretariat of each house is headed by a secretary-general. He/she is a permanent officer and is appointed by the presiding officer of the House.

Secretary-General of Lok Sabha is the administrative head of the Lok Sabha Secretariat. S/he is appointed by the **Speaker of the Lok Sabha.**

97. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

A session of Parliament consists of many meetings. A sitting of Parliament can be terminated by adjournment or adjournment sine die or prorogation or dissolution (in the case of the Lok Sabha).

Row 1 is correctly matched: Adjournment is a tool with which a sitting (not a session) of the House is put off for a set period of time, such as a few days, weeks, or hours. The power **of adjournment lies with the Presiding officer**, and it specifies the time of reassembly of the House. It **does not affect the bills or any other business pending before the House and the same can be resumed when the House meets again.**

Row 2 is incorrectly matched: Prorogation signifies the conclusion of a parliamentary session, i.e., the end of the sitting as well as the session. The **President (not the Leader of the House) has the authority to prorogue either one or both Houses of Parliament**, as stipulated in Article 85 of the Constitution. It should be **noted that upon prorogation, all pending notices, excluding those for the introduction of a Bill, become null, necessitating the submission of fresh notices for the subsequent session.**

Row 3 is correctly matched: A dissolution ends the very life of the existing House, and a new House is constituted after general elections are held. The dissolution of the Lok Sabha may take place in either of two ways: 1. Automatic dissolution, that is, on the expiry of its tenure of five years or the terms as extended during a national emergency; or 2. Whenever the **President decides to dissolve the House, which he is authorised to do on the advice of the Prime Minister.** When the Lok Sabha is dissolved, all business including bills, motions, resolutions, notices, petitions and so on pending before it or its committee's lapse except some pending bills and all pending assurances before Committee of Government Assurances. Also, a **bill pending in the Lok Sabha lapses (whether originating in the Lok Sabha or transmitted to it by the Rajya Sabha.)**

98. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The Motion of Thanks is a **parliamentary tradition aimed at expressing gratitude for the President's Address.** This ritual occurs at the **start of each year and the beginning of the session following general elections**, underscoring its significance in affirming the government's mandate. At the end of the discussion, the motion is subjected to a vote.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The president addresses the first session after each general election and each year, outlining the government's policies and programmes. At the end of the discussion, the motion is put to vote in both houses of Parliament. This motion must be passed in the House of the People. Otherwise, it amounts to the defeat of the government.

While if such a situation occurs in Rajya Sabha **then there is no such obligation on the government i.e. to resign**, but still it is seen to undermine government's ability at consensus building.

99. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Joint sitting is an extraordinary machinery provided by the Constitution to resolve a deadlock between the two Houses over the passage of a bill. If the bill (under dispute) has already lapsed due to the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, no joint sitting can be summoned. But the joint sitting can be held if the Lok Sabha is dissolved after the President has notified his intention to summon such a sitting (as the bill does not lapse in this case). After the President notifies his intention to summon a joint sitting of the two Houses, none of the Houses can proceed further with the bill.

100. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The concept of *Office of Profit* aims to maintain the independence of legislators by ensuring they are not influenced by holding positions under the government that provide financial or other benefits. The Constitution disqualifies legislators if they hold such offices under Articles 102(1)(a) and 191(1)(a).

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution does not explicitly define *Office of Profit*. The determination of whether a position qualifies as such depends on judicial interpretation, considering factors like remuneration, authority, and government control over the position

Statement 2 is correct: Articles 102(1)(a) (for Parliament) and 191(1)(a) (for State Legislatures) provide for disqualification if a legislator holds an *office of profit* under the government, unless exempted by law like the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act.

Statement 3 is incorrect: While the Election Commission of India advises on disqualification cases related to office of profit, the President (for MPs) or the Governor (for MLAs) makes the final decision. **The EC's role is recommendatory, not final.**

101. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Leader of Opposition** (LoP) plays a crucial role in a democratic system by providing constructive criticism and acting as a check and balance on the ruling party. In the **Westminster system**, the LoP is often referred to as the **shadow Prime Minister** or the **alternative PM.**

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution of India does not explicitly mention the office of the Leader of Opposition. Instead, it finds recognition in the **Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977.** This Act provides statutory status, not constitutional status, to the LoP.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As per convention, a political party **must have 10% of the total seats in the Lok Sabha (55 out of 545 seats) to claim the Leader of Opposition post.** This convention is based on parliamentary practice and guidelines, but it is not mandated by Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977 .

Statement 3 is correct: Under the **Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament Act, 1977**, the Leader of Opposition enjoys the status and perks equivalent to a **Cabinet Minister**. This includes salary, allowances, and facilities. It reinforces the position's importance in ensuring parliamentary accountability.

102. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The **Open ballot system** is a voting mechanism in which voters' choices are visible to specific individuals, such as authorized agents, to ensure transparency and prevent corrupt practices like cross-voting. Unlike the **secret ballot**, where the **voter's choice remains confidential**, the open ballot system requires voters to display their marked preferences to designated representatives before casting their vote.

Option a is correct: The **Rajya Sabha**, or the Council of States, is the upper house of India's Parliament. Members of the Rajya Sabha are elected by the elected members of the State Legislative Assemblies and by the members of the Electoral college for Union Territories, using a **single transferable vote system,** based on **open ballot.**

Since **2003, open ballot** has been mandated in Rajya Sabha elections. The objective is to maintain transparency and prevent cross-voting, ensuring that the votes are cast in line with the party's official stance.

Option b is incorrect: The **President of India** is elected by an **indirect election** system using an electoral college consisting of elected members of both houses of Parliament and the elected members of the Legislative Assemblies of States and Union territories. This election follows the **single transferable vote** (STV) system, but it uses a **secret ballot.**

Option c is incorrect: The **Vice-President** is elected through an **indirect election** system using an electoral college consisting of the members of both houses of Parliament. Similar to the Presidential election, the Vice-President's election is also conducted using a **secret ballot.**

103. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Speaker Pro Tem is **not elected by the members of Lok Sabha**. The President of India appoints a senior member of the Lok Sabha as the Speaker Pro Tem.

Statement 2 is correct: The **primary role** of the Speaker Pro Tem is to **administer oaths** to newly elected MPs. When the Speaker of the last Lok Sabha vacates his office immediately before the first meeting of the newly elected LS, the President appoints a 'Speaker Pro Tem'. This office is a temporary office created majorly to **administer oaths to the new members of the Lok Sabha** so that they can elect a new Speaker.

Statement 3 is correct: The oath to the Speaker Pro Tem is administered by the President and s/he presides over the House till the House elects a new Speaker.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The date of election of the **Speaker is fixed by the President of India and not by the Speaker Pro Tem of the Lok Sabha.**

104. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

Statement I is correct: Post Independence, India chose the Parliamentary System over the Presidential system. It was due to several factors like Historical context, accommodating diversity, responsible and accountable government etc.

Statement II is correct: In a Parliamentary system, the President is the head of the State and Prime Minister is the Head of the government. But in the case of the Presidential system, the President serves as the head of the State and the Government.

But, this simply denotes the difference between the Presidential and Parliamentary system and does not explain why India chose Parliamentary system after Independence.

Statement III is correct and explains Statement I: The parliamentary system's emphasis on collective responsibility and the executive's accountability to the legislature resonated with India's democratic ideals. The Prime Minister and the Cabinet are collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha, ensuring that the government remains responsive to the will of the people. **In a Parliamentary system the executive is directly accountable to the legislature which is why India chose Parliamentary system.**

105. Solution: (c)

Exp) option c is the correct answer.

The Speaker of the Lok Sabha holds a central position in the functioning of India's parliamentary democracy. As the presiding officer of the lower house, the Speaker has constitutional, procedural, and discretionary powers that are pivotal to maintaining decorum, ensuring fairness, and steering the legislative process effectively.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Leader of the House in the Lok Sabha is typically the Prime Minister or a minister designated by the Prime Minister. The Speaker is the presiding officer of the Lok Sabha.

Statement 2 is correct. According to Article 94 of the Constitution, when the Lok Sabha is dissolved, the Speaker shall not vacate his office until immediately before the first meeting of the newly constituted Lok Sabha. This provision ensures continuity and avoids any vacuum in the presiding office during the transitional period between two Lok Sabhas.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Disqualification under Representation of the People Act, 1951 is decided by the President of India, not the Speaker. The President acts after obtaining the opinion of the Election Commission.

The Speaker of the House is the final authority in deciding matters related to **disqualification under the Tenth Schedule**.

106. Solution: (d)

Exp) option d is the correct answer.

The provisions relating to "Office of Profit" serves as a constitutional safeguard to maintain the independence and integrity of the legislature. It prevents the executive from influencing legislators through appointments to positions that may offer financial or material benefits.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The **Representation of the People Act, 1951** does **not define** the term "Office of Profit." It **indirectly refers** to related disqualification conditions under **Section 9A**, dealing with government contracts, but the expression itself remains **undefined** in both the Act and the Constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Both Parliament and the State Legislatures can make laws to exempt certain offices from the purview of the office of profit. Article 102(1)(a) and Article 191(1)(a) of the Constitution allow Parliament or State Legislatures to enact laws **providing exemptions regarding the disqualification of members due to holding an office of profit.** So, both Parliament and State Legislatures have the authority to exempt certain offices from disqualification under the office of profit rule.

Article 191 says - A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as, and for being, a member of the Legislative Assembly or Legislative Council of a State if he holds any office of profit under the Government of India or the Government of any State specified in the First Schedule, **other than an office declared by the Legislature of the State by law not to disqualify its holder;**

107. Solution: (a)

Exp) option a is the correct answer.

The functioning of Parliament involves various procedural tools that control the continuity, suspension, or end of a session or sitting. These include **adjournment, adjournment sine die, prorogation**, and **dissolution**.

Row 1 is incorrect. Adjournment refers to the **temporary suspension of a sitting of the House for a specific period of time**, which may be for hours, a day, or more. This power lies **entirely with the Presiding Officer** (Speaker in Lok Sabha or Chairman in Rajya Sabha). Adjournment only terminates a sitting and not a session of the House.

Row 2 is incorrect. Adjournment sine die refers to terminating a sitting of Parliament for an indefinite period, that is, when the House is adjourned without naming a day for reassembly, it is called adjournment sine die. **The power of adjournment sine die lies with the presiding officer of the House**

Row 3 is correct. Prorogation is the **formal ending of a Parliamentary session** by the **President of India.** It usually follows an adjournment sine die by the presiding officer, although prorogation can also occur while the House is in session.

108. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. A bill that was introduced and pending in the Lok Sabha lapses when the Lok Sabha is dissolved. Whether the bill originated in the Lok Sabha or was transmitted from the Rajya Sabha, if it is pending in the Lok Sabha and has not been passed, it automatically lapses upon dissolution.

Statement 2 is incorrect. A bill that was pending in the Rajya Sabha but had not yet been taken up in the Lok Sabha does not lapse upon the dissolution of the Lok Sabha. The Rajya Sabha is a permanent body and not subject to dissolution. If the bill is still under consideration in the Rajya Sabha and has not yet reached the Lok Sabha, it can continue its legislative process once the new Lok Sabha is constituted.

Statement 3 is incorrect. A bill for which the President had notified a joint sitting, but the Lok Sabha was dissolved before the sitting was held does not lapse. If the President has notified a joint sitting under Article 108 of the Constitution before the Lok Sabha was dissolved, then the bill is considered alive.

109. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

In parliamentary democracy, various types of motions are introduced by members of the legislature to **express opinions, seek accountability, or initiate discussions on policy or governance issues.** Some motions are exclusive to the **Lok Sabha**, while others can be introduced in **both Houses of Parliament.**

Option 1 is correct. Adjournment Motion is used to **draw the attention** of the House to a **definite matter of urgent public importance** by interrupting the normal business of the House. It requires the support of at **least 50 members** to be admitted. Importantly, it implies a form of **indirect censure** of the government, thus it can **only be introduced in the Lok Sabha**, which has the power to hold the government accountable.

Option 2 is correct. No-Confidence Motion is aimed at testing the confidence of the House in the Council of Ministers. If passed, the government must resign. Since the **Council of Ministers is collectively responsible only to the Lok Sabha** (as per Article 75 of the Constitution), a no-confidence motion **can only be introduced and passed in the Lok Sabha.**

Option 3 is incorrect. Privilege Motion is used to take action against a breach of privilege by a member or any outsider. Parliamentary privileges are enjoyed by both Houses, and thus a privilege motion can be **moved in both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha.**

Option 4 is correct. A **censure motion** is used to strongly express disapproval against a specific policy or action of the government. It may be moved against a minister or the entire Council of Ministers. It is a procedural device allowed **only in the Lok Sabha**, since it relates to executive accountability, and may lead to the government having to explain its actions or even resign if it loses support.

Option 5 is correct. Cut motions are introduced during the budget session when the demands for grants are being discussed. They are aimed at reducing allocations in the

budget. These motions **can only be introduced in the Lok Sabha**, since **only the Lok Sabha has the power to vote on the demands for grants** under Article 113 of the Constitution.

Option 6 is incorrect. Motion of Thanks is introduced in both Houses after the President's Address to the Parliament at the beginning of a new session. It is **not exclusive to the Lok Sabha**, and both Houses pass their own versions. A defeat of the motion of thanks in either House is politically significant, but it is **not a constitutional requirement for the government to resign if it is defeated in the Rajya Sabha.**

110. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is correct: Special Mention is a parliamentary device used in the **Rajya Sabha** to raise **matters of public importance** that are not part of the day's scheduled business. **Any member** can bring up an issue of **urgent national or public interest** under this provision.

Pair 2 is incorrect: Point of Order is a point relating to the interpretation or enforcement of the Rules of Procedure or such articles of the Constitution as regulate the business of the House raised in the House and submitted for the decision of the Chair.

Pair 3 is incorrect: "Naming a Member" refers to drawing of attention of the House by the Chairman to the conduct of a member who disregards the authority of the Chair or abuses the Rules of the House by persistently and willfully obstructing the business thereof, with a view to action being taken to suspend him from the service of the House for a period not exceeding the remainder of the session.

111. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Constitution provides for the reservation of seats for certain classes of citizens like the SCs and STs.

Statement 1 is correct. The term Anglo-Indians is defined by the Constitution. Article 366 defines Anglo-Indian as a person whose father or any of whose other male progenitors in the male line is or was of European descent but who is domiciled within the territory of India and is or was born within such territory of parents habitually resident therein and not established there for temporary purposes only.

Statement 2 is correct: The provision for reservation for Anglo-Indian in Lok Sabha was provided in the original Indian Constitution. Originally, this provision was to operate till 1960 but has been extended by the Eighth Amendment Act, 1960 for a period of ten years (i.e., up to 1970). It was extended till 2020 by the 95th Amendment Act, 2009.

Statement 3 is correct: The **104th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2020** extend the reservation of seats for SCs and STs in the Lok Sabha and states assemblies from Seventy years to Eighty years **but did not extend the reserved seats for the Anglo-Indian community in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies.**

112. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Parliamentary Committees in India play a crucial role in ensuring the smooth functioning of the legislature, effective oversight of the executive, and public accountability.

The Committee on Petitions serves as a mechanism **to examine and address petitions** submitted by individuals, groups, or organizations on issues falling under the **Union List or involving matters of public interest.** These petitions can pertain to **grievances, complaints, or suggestions** for improvement in government policies, laws, or procedures.

Each House of Parliament has its own Committee on Petitions. The Lok Sabha committee consists of 15 members, while the Rajya Sabha committee consists of 10 members. The Chairperson of the Committee on Petitions in each House is elected by the members of the respective committee. The committee serves as a **formal mechanism for citizens to voice their concerns and seek redressal.** It promotes democratic engagement, transparency and accountability within the government through legislative oversight on various issues raised in the public interest.

Important Tips

- **Committee on Government Assurances** - This committee focuses on **promises, assurances, and undertakings** given by ministers during parliamentary proceedings. Its primary role is to ensure that these assurances are fulfilled within a reasonable time. It does not directly address citizens' concerns or examine petitions.
- **Committee on Subordinate Legislation** - This committee scrutinizes rules, regulations, and orders framed by the executive under various laws passed by Parliament. Its role is to ensure that subordinate legislation conforms to the constitutional and legislative framework. However, it does not deal with citizen grievances or petitions.
- **Committees to Scrutinize and Control**

This is a broader category of committees that include:

Committee on Public Accounts

Estimates Committee

Committee on Public Undertakings.

These committees scrutinize financial management, budget allocations, and the functioning of government undertakings. However, they do not serve as a direct formal mechanism for citizens to submit petitions or grievances.

113. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Delimitation literally means the act or process of fixing limits or boundaries of territorial constituencies in a country or a province having a legislative body. The job of delimitation is assigned to a high-power body. Such a body is known as Delimitation Commission or a Boundary Commission.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Supreme Court, in its recent verdict in Kishorchandra Chhanganlal Rathod v. Union of India (2024 INSC 579) has asserted the power of judicial review over the Delimitation Commission's orders, marking a

bold and crucial step towards fortifying democratic principles in Indian electoral jurisprudence.

While adjudicating an appeal from the Gujarat high court, a two-judge divisional bench of the apex court, held that nothing ousts the constitutional courts from scrutinising the validity of orders passed by the Delimitation Commission on the touchstone of the constitution, especially if an order of Delimitation Commission is found to be "manifestly arbitrary" and "irreconcilable to constitutional values".

Statement 2 is incorrect: The copies of its orders are laid before the Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assembly concerned, but **no modifications are permissible therein by them.**

114. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is a committee of selected members of parliament, constituted by the Parliament of India, for the purpose of auditing the revenue and the expenditure of the Government of India. It was first established in 1921, following the recommendations of the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms of 1919. After the adoption of the Indian Constitution, the PAC became one of the major parliamentary committees.

Statement 1 is correct: The Public Accounts Committee consists of not more than twenty-two members, fifteen elected by Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Parliament, and not more than seven members of Rajya Sabha, the upper house of the Parliament. The members are elected every year from amongst its members of respective houses according to the principle of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is **appointed by the Speaker of the Lok Sabha from amongst the members of committee from lok sabha.** The term of office for the members is one year. Prior to 1966-67, a senior member of the ruling party was appointed as the chairman.

A member from the Opposition is appointed as the chairman (not that the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha is automatically considered as the chairman of PAC.)

Statement 3 is correct: The **PAC reviews the reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General (CAG).** The committee examines how government funds are utilized and ensures financial accountability through reports of CAG. With its pivotal role in assisting PAC by providing expert insights, reports, and recommendations on financial accountability, the CAG is often referred to as the "friend, philosopher, and guide" of the PAC.

115. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Both Money Bill mentioned under Article 110 and a Financial Bill mentioned under Article 117 (1) of the Constitution of India **can be introduced only with the prior recommendation of the President of India.**

Statement 2 is correct: As per Article 109 and 117 of the Constitution of India respectively, **both Money Bill mentioned under Article 110 and a Financial Bill mentioned under Article 117 (1) of the Constitution of India cannot be introduced in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha)** which means both type of bills can be introduced only in the House of People (Lok Sabha).

Statement 3 is correct: As per article 108 of the Constitution of India the **joint sitting of both houses of Parliament cannot be held for deliberating and voting on a Money bill.**

In case of bills under Article 117 (1) the Joint sitting of the both houses of Parliament can be held for deliberating and voting up on the bill because except two conditions that these cannot be introduced in Rajya Sabha, and secondly, it cannot be introduced except on the recommendations of the President, these bills in all other aspects are just like any other ordinary bills.

116. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Row 1 is correct. Simple Majority means a majority in which **more than half of the members present and voting** in a House support a particular decision or Bill. Members who are present but abstain from voting are not counted in this calculation. It is utilized for various Parliamentary procedures, like:

(a) Passage of Ordinary, Money and Financial Bills.

(b) Passage of Constitutional Amendment Bills, which require a simple majority, like creation of new states, alterations in the size of states, creation or abolition of Legislative Councils by the Parliament, etc

Row 2 is incorrect. Effective Majority means a majority which requires the support of **at least half of the effective strength of the House.** Effective strength refers to the **total membership** of the House **minus vacancies** thus, encompassing **all the then members of the House.** This principle finds application in various scenarios, such as the **removal of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha** and, the removal of the Speaker & the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assembly.

Row 3 is incorrect. Absolute Majority is a majority that surpasses **50% of the total membership of the House,** irrespective of vacancies or absentees. It is not used directly but used in certain cases of special majorities and during the general election, for the **formation of government at the Center and the States.**

117. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Consultative committees are **attached to various ministries/departments** of the Central Government. They consist of members of both the Houses of Parliament. The **Minister/Minister of State in charge of the Ministry** concerned acts as the **chairman** of the consultative committee of that ministry.

Statement 2 is correct. These committees provide a **forum for informal discussions** between the ministers and the members

of Parliament on policies and programmes of the government and the manner of their implementation.

Statement 3 is correct. Consultative committees are constituted by the **Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs**. The guidelines regarding the composition, functions and procedures of these committees are formulated by this Ministry. The Ministry also makes arrangements for holding their meetings both during the session and the inter-session period of Parliament.

The **membership** of these committees is **voluntary** and is left to the choice of the members and the leaders of their parties. The maximum membership of a committee is **30 and the minimum is 10.**

118. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Indian Constitution contains several provisions that are intended to limit and control the power of the executive branch. These provisions are in line with the doctrine of checks and balances and are designed to ensure that the executive does not become too powerful.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 75 of the Indian Constitution provides for the parliamentary system of government in India. In this government, the executive branch i.e. the Council of Ministers led by the Prime Minister, is collectively responsible to the Lok Sabha. This means that the Council of Ministers must maintain the support and confidence of the Lok Sabha to continue in office. Thus, **Lok Sabha by using the vote of no confidence motion, exercise control over the executive.**

Statement 2 is correct: It is true that the **Parliament's approval is mandatory for the executive to withdraw funds from the Consolidated Fund.** Thus, Parliament fixes **financial accountability** of the executives by approving or disapproving the funds required by the government for running its administration, programme, schemes etc.

6.2. State Legislature

119. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect. Parliament can create or abolish a Legislative Council in a state, but this is based on a **resolution passed by the State Legislative Assembly, not on the recommendation of the President.** As per **Article 169** of the Indian Constitution, a resolution for creating or abolishing the Legislative Council must first be passed by the State Legislative Assembly with a special majority (a majority of the total membership and two-thirds of the members present and voting). After the resolution is passed, Parliament enacts a law to implement it.

Option b is incorrect. In Parliament, the law to create or abolish a Legislative Council needs to be passed by a **simple majority in both Houses** (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha). The **two-thirds majority applies only to the State Legislative Assembly resolution,** not to the Parliament's approval.

Option c is correct. Article 169(3) explicitly states that a law for creating or abolishing a Legislative Council **shall not be deemed to be a Constitutional Amendment** for the purposes of Article 368. Instead, it is passed as an ordinary law. Therefore, such changes made by the Parliament do not amount to a Constitutional Amendment under Article 368 and are enacted as regular legislation with a simple majority.

Option d is incorrect. Jammu and Kashmir no longer has a Legislative Council. Following the reorganization of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories (Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh) in August 2019, its Legislative Council was abolished. As of now, only six states have Legislative Councils: Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh.

120. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The territorial constituencies for the **Legislative Assembly of a state** are demarcated based on the recommendations of the **Delimitation Commission**. The **Delimitation Commission** is an independent statutory body established under the **Delimitation Commission Act** passed by Parliament. The process of constituency demarcation is conducted to ensure fair representation of the population in elections, upholding the principle of "one person, one vote."

As per **Article 82** of the Constitution, after every **Census**, Parliament enacts a Delimitation Act. Following this, the Delimitation Commission is constituted to redraw the boundaries of both Parliamentary and State Assembly constituencies. Similarly, **Article 170** specifies that the composition and size of the Legislative Assembly in a state are based on territorial constituencies, ensuring proportional representation according to the latest population data. The Commission's decisions carry the **force of law** and cannot be challenged in any court of law, maintaining impartiality and transparency in the process.

The Delimitation Act passed by Parliament governs its powers and functions. Once its orders are published, they **cannot be challenged in court.**

121. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 168 of the Indian Constitution provides for either a bicameral or unicameral legislature in states, depending on the state's structure. In states with a bicameral system, such as Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh, the legislature consists of two Houses: (i) The Legislative Council (Vidhan Parishad),(ii)The Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha). In contrast, states without a Legislative Council have a unicameral legislature, comprising only the Legislative Assembly. The powers of the two houses vary depending on the matter under consideration.

Statement 1 is correct: As per **Article 213** of the Indian Constitution, an ordinance promulgated by the Governor has the same effect as an Act passed by the Legislature. Such an ordinance must be laid before the **Legislative Assembly**, or where there is a Legislative Council, before **both Houses** of the Legislature for the approval for the period of six weeks from the reassembly of the Legislature.

Statement 2 is correct: Under Article 80(4) of Constitution of India, only **the elected members of the State Legislative Assembly participate in the election of the state's representatives** to the Rajya Sabha. **Members of the Legislative Council do not have this power to participate in such election process**

Statement 3 is correct: The Ministers in State including Chief Minister of state **can be member of either legislative assembly or legislative council** as the same that of Union Ministers including Prime Minister can be member of either Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha. However, irrespective of their membership, they are responsible to lower house (State legislative assembly / Lok Sabha as the case may be)

122. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The State Legislative Council is the upper house of a bicameral legislature in some Indian states, as per Article 168 of the Constitution. Its formation and functioning are governed by Article 169, which allows Parliament of India to establish or abolish a council in any Indian state.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 171(1) of the Indian Constitution specifies the strength of the **Legislative Council.** It sets the minimum number of members at **40** and the maximum at **one-third** of the total members of the **Legislative Assembly** of the respective state.

Statement 2 is correct: As per **Article 171(3)** of the Indian Constitution, **one-third of the members of the Legislative Council are elected by the members of the Legislative Assembly of the State from amongst persons who are not members of the Assembly.**

Statement 3 is correct: Article 171(5) of the Constitution allows the **Governor** of the state to nominate one-sixth of the members of the **Legislative Council.** These nominees should have special knowledge or practical experience in areas such as literature, science, art, the cooperative movement, and social service.

123. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The legislature of the States is described as State legislature. When there are two houses of the legislature, it is called a bicameral legislature. Under **Article 168,** the Constitution has given the States the option of establishing either a unicameral or bicameral legislature (Done by Parliament of India on request of State Legislative Assembly)

Option 1, 2 and 5 are correct. There is no uniformity in the organisation of state legislatures. Most of the states have an unicameral system, while others have a bicameral system. At present, only six states have two Houses (bicameral). **These are Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra and Karnataka.**

Option 3 is incorrect. The Tamil Nadu Legislative Council Act, 2010 has not come into force. **Hence, Tamil Nadu has unicameral system in practice.**

Option 4 is incorrect. The 7th Amendment Act of 1956 provided for a Legislative Council in Madhya Pradesh. However, a notification to this effect has to be made by the President. So far, no such notification has been made. Hence, **Madhya Pradesh continues to have one House only.**

124. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The Chairman of the State Legislative Council is elected by its members from among themselves. The process is similar to the election of the Speaker in the Legislative Assembly, and the Chairman is responsible for maintaining order and managing the proceedings in the Council.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The members of Legislative Council are **not directly elected by the people** in general elections. One-third of members of Legislative Council are indirectly elected by members of State Legislative Assembly and one-third are elected by local bodies like municipalities, district boards, panchyats.

Statement 3 is incorrect: According to **Article 171(1)** of the Constitution, the maximum strength of a State Legislative Council cannot exceed **one-third (1/3rd)** of the total membership of the State Legislative Assembly. However, the minimum strength of a Legislative Council **cannot be less than 40** members.

Important Tips

The composition of the Council is as follows:

1. One-third (1/3rd) elected by local bodies (municipalities, district boards, panchayats).
2. One-third (1/3rd) elected by the members of the State Legislative Assembly.
3. One-twelfth (1/12th) elected by graduates of three years' standing.
4. One-twelfth (1/12th) elected by teachers in the state.
5. One-sixth (1/6th) nominated by the Governor for their expertise in fields such as literature, science, arts, and social service.

125. Solution: (d)

Exp) option d is the correct answer.

The Indian Parliament consists of two Houses—the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. Though they work together to legislate, the Constitution deliberately crafts structural and procedural differences between them. **These differences serve to balance direct representation (Lok Sabha) with federal wisdom and continuity (Rajya Sabha).**

Statement 1 is correct. Rajya Sabha elections are conducted through the open ballot system. This provision was brought by the Representation of the People (Amendment) Act, 2003. In Rajya Sabha elections, **electors must show their marked ballots to the party's authorized agent.** However, it is not applicable to independent legislators.

Statement 2 is correct. In the constitution, the **term of members of Rajya Sabha is not specified. Article 83 of the**

Constitution says - the Council of States shall not be subject to dissolution, but as nearly as **possible one-third of the members thereof shall retire as soon as may be on the expiration of every second year** in accordance with the provisions made in that behalf by Parliament by law. Thus, no specific term is mentioned in the Parliament.

The term of 6 years is mentioned in the Representation of the People Act, 1951, not the Constitution.

Statement 3 is correct. The **Rajya Sabha is a permanent House. It is not subjected to dissolution by the President of India.** On the other hand, the Lok Sabha can be dissolved by the President on the advice of the Council of Ministers.

Statement 4 is correct. Reservation in Lok Sabha is provided under Article 330 for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. However, Rajya Sabha has no such provision. Members of Rajya Sabha are elected by State Legislative Assemblies through proportional representation.

Important Tips

A ballot is a device used for voting in an election. It provides the list of candidates contesting the election and allows voters to indicate their choice.

1. **Open Ballot System:** It is a system where the choice of voters is displayed openly. In India, the Open ballot system is used in Rajya Sabha elections.
2. **Secret Ballot System:** It is a system where a voter's choices are confidential. For example, in General elections to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.
3. **Postal Ballot:** It is a facility, where voter can cast her vote remotely by recording her preference on the ballot paper and sending it back to the election officer before counting.

Currently, Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Council elections are being held under Open Ballot system in India. Recently, the Supreme Court dismissed a PIL seeking to allow secret ballot in polls for the Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Council.

126. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The State legislature may have a unicameral system or bicameral system, in a bicameral system, the State legislature consists of both State Legislative Assembly and State Legislative Council.

Statement 1 is incorrect: A bill to create or abolish a State Legislative Council can be introduced in either House of Parliament, not exclusively the Rajya Sabha.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 169 of the Indian Constitution outlines the process for creating or abolishing an SLC. While Parliament enacts the law, in **Article 169 it is specifically stated that this law is not considered a constitutional amendment under Article 368.**

Statement 3 is correct: Currently, six states are having a legislative council. They are **Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka.**

127. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Assertion (A) is true- According to the **Representation of People's Act of 1951,** political party's agitation for **linguistic conservation is not an offence.** A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as, and for being, a member of the Legislative Assembly or Legislative Council of a State-

1. if he **holds any office of profit** under the Government of India or the Government of any State specified in the First Schedule, other than an office declared by the Legislature of the State by law not to disqualify its holder;
2. if **he is of unsound mind** and stands so declared by a competent court;
3. if **he is an undischarged insolvent;**
4. if **he is not a citizen of India**, or has **voluntarily acquired the citizenship of a foreign State**, or is under any acknowledgement of allegiance or adherence to a foreign State;
5. if **he is so disqualified by or under any law made by Parliament.**

Reason (R) is false- Article 29 and not Article 30, guarantees that any group of citizens residing in India, distinguished by a unique language, script, or culture, has the right to **preserve their identity. Article 30** on the other hand, grants minorities (religious or linguistic) the right to establish and administer educational institutions.

128. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

State Legislative Councils are the upper houses of the bicameral state legislatures in India, established **under Article 169 of the Constitution.** These councils serve as a forum for detailed deliberation on legislation. The members of State Legislative Councils are elected indirectly through various methods, including the election by members of local bodies, graduates, teachers, and other special constituencies. Some members are also nominated by the Governor to represent eminent individuals.

Option 1 and 4 are correct: 1/ 3 of its members of Legislative Councils are elected by the electorate consisting of the members of local bodies in the state like which includes **district boards,** municipalities etc.

Option 2 is incorrect: 1/ 12 of its members are elected by **teachers of at least three years** standing in the state, **not lower in standard than secondary school.** Thus, Primary school teachers don't participate in state legislative council elections.

Option 3 is correct: 1/3 of the members will be elected by the Members of Legislative Assembly of the State from individuals who are not already members of the Assembly. It includes both nominated and elected members.

Important Tips

Five-sixths of the total legislative council members are elected indirectly, while one-sixth are nominated by the governor. The election process follows proportional representation through a single transferable vote system. These one-sixth of members are appointed by the governor from individuals possessing specialised knowledge or practical experience in literature, science, art, cooperative movement, and social service.

129. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

The State Legislative Assembly, as the sole law-making body for the state, holds exclusive powers to legislate on matters listed in the State List, manages state finances, approves budgets, and scrutinizes the executive's work. They have the authority to enact laws on subjects listed in the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. This includes matters such as public order, police, health, agriculture, local government, land, and more. State legislatures also have the power to levy and collect taxes, subject to certain limitations imposed by the Constitution. Additionally, they play a crucial role in the budgetary process, approving state budgets and expenditures

Statement 1 is correct: Participation in the election of President is an **exclusive power of State Legislative assembly** as the Legislative Council does not have a role in electing the President of India or representatives to the Rajya Sabha.

Statement 2 is correct: The **Legislative Council does not have influence in ratifying constitutional amendment bills.** In this regard, the assembly's decision takes precedence over that of the council.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Expanding the authority of the state Public Service Commission can be **done by both** Legislative assembly and Legislative Council.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Granting approval to ordinances issued by the Governor comes under **the ambit of both** Legislative assembly and Legislative Council.

Statement 5 is incorrect: Both have similar power in case of introduction and passage of ordinary bills. However, if there is a disagreement between the two Houses (assembly and council), the decision of the assembly takes precedence over that of the council.

130. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

When a Money Bill is presented to the governor, he has the option to grant his assent, hold back his assent, or reserve the bill for presidential approval. However, he cannot send the bill back to the state legislature for further review. Typically, the governor provides his assent to a Money Bill as long as it was introduced in the state legislature with his prior approval.

Statement 1 is correct- The President can **give his assent to a money bill** of the state legislature that has been reserved for his assent by the governor. The bill can then become law.

Statement 2 is correct- The President can **withhold his assent** to a money bill of the state legislature that has been reserved for his assent by the governor. The bill then becomes dead.

Statement 3 is incorrect- The president **cannot return a money bill** for the reconsideration of the state legislature.

131. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

There is no uniformity in the organization of State legislatures. Most of the States have a unicameral system, while others have a bicameral system. At present, only six States have two Houses (bicameral). These are Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra and Karnataka.

In the States having bicameral system, the State legislature consists of the Governor, the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly. The Legislative Council (Vidhan Parishad) is the upper house (second chamber or house of elders), while the Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha) is the lower house (first chamber or popular house).

Unlike the members of the Legislative Assembly, the members of the Legislative Council are indirectly elected. The maximum strength of the council is fixed at one-third of the total strength of the assembly and the minimum strength is fixed at 40.

Manner of Election

Of the total number of members of a legislative council:

- 1/3 are elected by the members of local bodies in the State like municipalities, district boards, etc., **(Hence Option 1 is correct)**
- 1/12 are elected by graduates of three years standing and residing within the State, **(Hence Option 2 is correct)**
- 1/12 are elected by teachers of three years standing in the State, not lower in standard than secondary school,
- 1/3 are elected by the members of the Legislative Assembly of the State from amongst persons who are not members of the assembly, and **(Hence Option 3 is correct)**
- the remainder are nominated by the Governor from amongst persons who have a special knowledge or practical experience of literature, science, art, cooperative movement and social service.

Members of Lok Sabha elected from the State and Members of Rajya Sabha nominated from the State **do not participate in the elections of the State Legislative Council. (Hence Options 4 and 5 are incorrect)**

Thus, 5/6 of the total number of members of a Legislative Council are indirectly elected and 1/6 are nominated by the Governor. The members are elected in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote.

132. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Governor like the President enjoys **veto power over the bill** passed by the house. He can either give his assent, withhold his assent or return the bill for reconsideration of the state

legislature. Apart from these three options, he can also reserve the bill for the consideration of the President.

Statement 1 is incorrect. When a **Money Bill is reserved by the Governor for the consideration of the President,** the President has two alternatives:

(a) He may give his assent to the bill, the bill then becomes an Act.

(b) He may withhold his assent to the bill, the bill then ends and does not become an act.

Thus, the **President cannot return a money bill for the reconsideration of the state legislature** (as in the case of the Parliament).

Statement 2 is incorrect. When an ordinary bill of state legislature is reserved by the governor for the consideration of the President, **the President has three alternatives:**

(a) He may **give his assent** to the bill; the bill then becomes an act.

(b) He may **withhold his assent** to the bill, the bill then ends and does not become an Act.

(c) He may **return the bill for reconsideration** of the House or Houses of the state legislature. If the **bill is passed by the House or Houses again** with or without amendments and presented to the President for his assent, the **President is not bound to give his assent to the bill. He may give his assent to such a bill or withhold his assent.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. When a bill is sent to the Governor for his assent, the Governor can reserve a bill for the President. According to the Constitution, in one case such **reservation is obligatory,** that is, where the **bill passed by the state legislature endangers the position of the state High Court.** In addition, the governor **can also reserve** the bill if it is of the following nature:

(i) **Ultra-vires**, that is, against the provisions of **the Constitution.**

(ii) **Opposed** to the **Directive Principles** of State Policy.

(iii) Against the **larger interest of the country.**

(iv) Of grave **national importance.**

(v) Dealing with **compulsory acquisition of property** under Article 31A of the Constitution.

133. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: According to **Article 170** of the Constitution of India, the Legislative Assembly of each State shall **consist of not more than five hundred (500),** and not less than sixty, members chosen by direct election from territorial constituencies in the State.

Statement 2 is correct: According to **Article 173 of the Constitution of India**, a person shall not be qualified to be chosen to fill a seat in the Legislature of a State unless he or she:

- is a citizen of India, and makes and subscribes before some person authorised in that behalf by the Election Commission an oath or affirmation according to the form set out for the purpose in the Third Schedule;
- in the **case of a seat in the Legislative Assembly, not less than twenty-five years of age** and, in the case of a seat in the
- **Legislative Council, not less than thirty years of age;** and
- possesses such other qualifications as may be prescribed in that behalf by or under any law made by Parliament

134. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The Constitution has made provisions for **reservation** of seats in **State Legislative Assemblies** for people belonging to **SC/ ST communities** in order to provide them due representation. There is **no upper or lower limit** on the number of seats reserved for them. Rather the **number of seats reserved** for members of **SC/ ST communities** is **dependent and proportional** to their **population** compared to the total population of the state.

Statement 2 is correct: The Constitution had provided for **reservation of 1 member** from the **Anglo-Indian** community in the State Legislative Assembly. It is **not a compulsory provision,** but rather it is at the **discretion of the Governor,** if he feels the community is **inadequately represented.** This provision was **originally** supposed to last only **until 1960.** However, it has been **extended subsequently every 10 years.** However, in **2019,** the **104th Constitution Amendment Act scrapped this reservation** as it was deemed to have **run out of its utility.** So, there is **no reservation** for the **Anglo-Indian community** in State Legislatures as of today.

Statement 3 is correct: The Constitution states that the minimum strength of the Legislative Council is to be 40, while the **maximum** has been fixed **at ⅓ of** the **total strength** of the legislative assembly. Thus, the **size of** the **Legislative Council** is **linked to the strength** of the **Legislative Assembly.**

135. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Matters related to location of States' capital gained currency after Andhra Pradesh proposal of making Visakhapatnam as its executive capital, Amaravati as legislative capital and Kurnool the judicial capital. This attracted the debate of who has the power of deciding the location of states' capital.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 3 does not empower State Legislatures to decide their location of state's capital. In fact, **Article 3 does not explicitly mention anything about "States' capital".** Article empowers **Parliament** to form a new state by separating a territory from any state (e.g.: Telangana formed out of Andhra Pradesh), to increase or decrease the area of any states etc.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Matters related to establishing a **capital of a new state are not covered by State list** in the Seventh Schedule of the Indian constitution. Seventh schedule of the constitution provides for **three-fold distribution of legislative powers (Union list, State list and Concurrent list)** between the centre and state governments.

136. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: The powers and status of the legislative council are broadly equal to that of the assembly in matters concerning the introduction of ordinary bills. Thus, the ordinary bills can be introduced in the **legislative councils** but not the money bills.

Option b is correct: The final power of passing an ordinary bill also lies with the assembly. At the most, the council can detain or delay the bill for the period of four months–three months in the first instance and one month in the second instance. In other words, the council is not even a revising body like the Rajya Sabha; it is only a dilatory chamber or an advisory body.

Option c is incorrect: The State Legislative Council **(SLC) has power to approve** both ordinary bills passed by assembly as well as **ordinances passed by the Governor of state.**

Option d is incorrect: The State Legislative Council **(SLC) has power to enlarge the jurisdiction of the State Public Service Commission (SPSC)**. The powers and status of the legislative council are broadly equal to legislative assembly in this context.

137. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Every bill passed by State legislatures need to receive the Governors' assent to become an act. In such circumstances, **the Governor of the State** can either give his **assent** to the bill or **withhold** his assent to the bill or he may **return** the bill for reconsideration or he may **reserve the bill for the consideration of the President.**

Statement 1 is correct: When the Governor of State reserved the money bill for the consideration of the President, then **the President cannot return the money bill for reconsideration of State legislatures.** The President can either give his/her **assent to the bill or withhold his assent** but cannot send it for reconsideration.

Statement 2 is incorrect: When the Governor of State reserved the **Ordinary bill** for the consideration of the President then the President can either give his **assent** to the bill or **withhold** his assent to the bill or **return** the bill for reconsideration of the House. When he/she return the bill for consideration of the state legislatures and **if the state passes the bill for a second time (either with or without changes) to the President, it is not mandatory for the President to give his/her assent to the bill.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: The jurisdiction and powers of a high court as specified in the Constitution **cannot be curtailed** both by the Parliament and the state legislature. But, in other respects, the jurisdiction and powers of a high court can be changed both by the parliament and the state legislature

138. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

The Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly is the presiding officer of the house and he/she is elected by the assembly itself from amongst its members. Usually, the Speaker remains in office during the life of the assembly.

Statement 1 is correct: It is true that the **Speaker of the legislative assembly decides whether the bill is a money bill or not.** If he/she certifies the bill as money bill then **the Legislative Council** (in case of bicameral legislature in a state) shall have **no power** over money bills except the council can **delay the passage of money bills for a period of 14 days** and after 14 days the money bill will be deemed to be passed by the legislature.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Usually the Governor prorogue (termination of the session) the house after the Speaker declares adjourned sine die (terminating a sitting of the state legislature for an indefinite period). However, **the Governor can also prorogue the house even when it is in session** which means the **Speaker's declaration of termination of sitting (adjourned sine die) is not necessary** for prorogation of sitting by the Governor. Thus, the **Speaker approval is not mandatory for Prorogation of session by the Governor.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: While it is true that the **Speaker is the final deciding** authority on matters related to defection, his/her decision is **not exempted from judicial review.** The Supreme court held that while the judicial review cannot be available prior to speaker decision, **judicial review can be applied to defection matter after the speaker's decision.**

139. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

The **legislative council**, being a permanent house, is **not subject to dissolution.** Only the legislative assembly is subject to dissolution. Dissolution ends the very life of the existing House and a new House will be constituted after conducting general elections. Thus, dissolution of the house will have varying impacts on multiple bills considered/passed by the assembly.

Statement 1 is correct: A Bill pending in the assembly, even if such a bill was originated and transmitted to the assembly by the council **lapses on the dissolution of legislative assembly.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: A bill **pending assent of the Governor as well as the President does not lapse** on the dissolution of legislative assembly.

Statement 3 is incorrect: A Bill passed by the assembly but pending in the council lapses on the dissolution of assembly. In contrast a Bill pending in the council but not passed by the assembly does not lapse

Statement 4 is correct: It is true that a bill passed by both assembly and council, but **returned by the President for reconsideration of the house does not lapse.**

140. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Privileges of a state legislature are a sum of special rights, immunities and exemptions enjoyed by the State legislatures and its members. Privileges are considered necessary to secure the independence and effectiveness of the legislature and actions of legislative members.

Statement 1 is incorrect: No member of state legislature can be arrested during the session of the state legislature and 40 days before the beginning and 40 days after the end of such a session. However, this **privilege is available only in civil cases**

and not in criminal cases or preventive detention cases.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Freedom of Speech granted to members of the State legislature are not absolute as such freedom is subject to **restrictions**. Freedom of speech granted to members is subject to the provisions of the **Constitution** and to the rules and standing orders regulating the procedure of the state legislature.

Statement 3 is correct: It is true that **members of the state legislature** can **refuse to appear as a witness in a case** pending in a court when the state legislature is in session. Members of state legislatures are given such privileges to carry out their constitutional duty without any interference.

141. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Quorum means the minimum number of people to be present to hold meetings.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The word quorum is mentioned in Article 100 and 189 of the constitution of India. **Article 100** deals with voting in Houses, power of Houses to act notwithstanding vacancies and **quorum in relation to Parliament** and **Article 189 deals** with voting in Houses, power of Houses to act notwithstanding vacancies and **quorum in relation to State legislatures.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Quorum of the State legislature requires a minimum strength of ten members or one tenth of the total number (and not specifically 50) of members of the house including the Speaker, whichever is greater.

Statement 3 is correct: It is the **duty of the Speaker/Chairman of the house to adjourn the House** or suspend the meeting in **absence of a quorum**.

Statement 4 is correct: A number of provisions in the Constitution can be **amended by a**

simple majority of the two Houses of Parliament **outside the scope of Article 368** and **Quorum** in Parliament is one such provisions which can be **amended by the parliament by simple majority.**

142. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In addition to the members of a House, every Minister and the Advocate general of the state have certain rights in relation to proceedings of the house. These rights are conferred on them to enable them to carry out their duties efficiently and effectively.

Statement 1 is correct: Advocate general of the state has the **right to speak and take part in the proceedings of any legislative committees** of which he/she is named a member.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Although Ministers have the right to speak and take part in proceedings of a house, of which he/she is not a member. However, the Minister has the **right to vote only in the house in which he/she is a member.**

Statement 3 is correct: It is true that **only ministers can introduce money bills in the State Legislative Assembly.** Bills introduced by Ministers are called Government bills. While members of legislative assembly who are not ministers are allowed to introduce ordinary bills (other than money bills) and they cannot introduce money bills.

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INDIAN POLITY AND GOVERNANCE

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND SPECIAL AREAS

7.1. Local Governments

1. With reference to the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

The 73rd Amendment to the Constitution of India:

1. was enacted during the prime ministership of P. V. Narasimha Rao.
2. transferred the subject of 'local government' from State List to Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.
3. introduced a new directive principle under Article 40 of the Constitution, that requires the States to organize village panchayats.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 only

2. Why is Gram Sabha often regarded as the closest example of Direct Democracy?

(a) Members of the Gram Sabha are directly elected by the adult population in a village.
(b) It uses all four devices of direct democracy namely, Referendum, Initiative, Recall and Plebiscite.
(c) It represents a system where the people of a village directly participate in the decision-making process.
(d) Decisions in the Gram Sabha are made based on the consensus method, where the support of every member is required.

3. As per Article243 M the provisions of Part IX related to Panchayats shall not apply to the state of Nagaland. The provisions of Part IX can be extended to Nagaland by the:

(a) Governor of Nagaland
(b) Parliament
(c) President
(d) State Legislature of Nagaland

4. Which of the following changes in the Indian Constitution was/were introduced through 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act,1992?

1. Addition of Eleventh Schedule to the Constitution of India
2. Addition of Article 43A to Part IV of the Constitution of India
3. Amended powers of the Election Commission of India under Article 324 of the Constitution

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2
(c) 1 and 3
(d) 3 only

5. Consider the following statements:

1. As per the Constitution, the Chairperson of panchayats at the village level shall be elected by and from the elected members of the panchayat.
2. The dates of panchayat elections are decided by the Governor based on the recommendation of the State Election Commission.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

6. With reference to reservation in panchayats mentioned under the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. The state legislature can make provision for the reservation of seats in the Panchayat at any level for economically weaker sections of citizens.
2. The provisions relating to reservation of seats for scheduled castes in panchayats do not apply to the State of Arunachal Pradesh.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

7. With reference to the State Finance Commission (SFC), consider the following statements:

As per the Constitution of India,

1. SFC shall make recommendations to the Governor on the principles which should govern the grants in aid to the Panchayats from the Consolidated Fund of India.
2. the State Legislature has the power to determine the qualifications and manner in which they will be selected.
3. it is responsible for making recommendations to the Governor of measures needed to augment the Consolidated Fund of a State to supplement the resources of the Panchayats in the state on the basis of the recommendations made by the Finance Commission.
4. the President of India has the authority to remove members of the State Finance Commission.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 4

8. In the context of Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act in 1996, consider the following statements:

1. Gram Sabhas may be empowered to manage village markets and exercise ownership over the minor forest produce.
2. The post of chairperson at all levels of panchayats in scheduled areas should be reserved for Scheduled Tribes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

9. With reference to Metropolitan Planning Committee (MPC) mentioned in the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. Two-thirds of members of the Metropolitan Planning Committee are appointed by the State Government.
2. The Constitution provides for the manner of election of the chairperson of MPC.

Which of the statements given above is/are ***incorrect***?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

10. Who among the following has the authority to direct that the provisions of Part IXA of the Constitution shall apply to any Union territory?

(a) Parliament
(b) President of India
(c) Administrator of Union Territory
(d) State Election Commission

11. In the context of 74th Constitutional Amendment Act 1992, consider the following statements:

1. Every Municipality unless dissolved sooner will continue for a period of five years from the date of its first meeting.
2. If a municipality is reconstituted after premature dissolution, it shall continue for a full five-year term from the date of its reconstitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

12. The P.K.Thungon Committee, 1988 which was setup to examine the political and administrative structure in the districts for the purpose of planning, recommended which of the following:

1. Granting constitutional status to the local government bodies.
2. Setting up a two-tier system of local government bodies having zila parishads and mandal panchayats as units.
3. Establishment of State Election Commissions to conduct local government body elections.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

13. With reference to the election of a Chairperson of Municipalities in any state, consider the following statements:

The Constitution of India mandates that

1. the Chairpersons should be directly elected.

2. at least one-third of the total number of seats of Chairpersons in the municipalities of the state should be reserved for women.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

14. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 was enacted to extend the provisions of Part IX of the Indian Constitution to the Tribal Areas referred to in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

Statement-II: The provisions of Part IX of the Indian Constitution do not apply to the Tribal Areas referred to in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-1 is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-1 is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

15. Consider the following statements with reference to the State Election Commission (SEC):

1. The Governor of a state appoints State Election Commissioner.
2. It is responsible for the administration of elections to the State Legislative Assemblies and Panchayati Raj Institutions.
3. It functions under the overall supervision of the Election Commission of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2
(b) 1 only
(c) 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3

16. With reference to Gram Sabha in India, consider the following statements:

1. The term Gram Sabha is defined in the constitution.
2. It consists of persons registered in the electoral rolls relating to a village within the Panchayat area.
3. The power to annul a decision of the Gram Sabha rests only with the State Legislature.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

17. With reference to Panchayats as per 73rd constitutional amendment Act of 1992, consider the following statements:

1. All states irrespective of population must adopt a 3 tier structure of panchayats.
2. At the apex is the Zilla Panchayat covering the entire rural area of the district.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

18. With reference to Ward councillors in Municipal Corporations, consider the following statements:

1. They participate in budget making of the Municipal Corporations.
2. They are responsible for implementing the decisions taken in the municipal council.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

19. Consider the following categories of people:

1. Scheduled Tribes
2. Scheduled Castes
3. Women
4. Anglo-Indians
5. Other Backward Classes

As per the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992, reservation of seats in Panchayat Raj elections is mandated for how many of the above categories of people?
(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

20. With reference to Nyaya Panchayats, consider the following statements:

1. They are empowered to hear both civil and criminal cases.
2. They have the authority to impose fines.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

21. With reference to the evolution of Local self-government in pre-independent India, consider the following statements:

1. The formal structure of the local self-government in modern India was introduced based on Ripon resolution, 1882.
2. Examining and reporting on the functioning of local self-government in India was one of the terms of reference assigned to the Simon Commission of 1927.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

22. The functions listed in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India can be extended to the Panchayats by:

(a) Governor of the State
(b) President of India
(c) State Legislature
(d) Parliament of India

23. With reference to the Gram Panchayat as per the Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. Chairperson of the Panchayat at village level shall be elected through method of direct election by voters of that village panchayat.
2. Normally, a Gram Panchayat shall continue for five years from the date appointed for its first meeting.
3. The Secretary of a Gram Panchayat is elected by the members of wards in a panchayat area.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None

24. In the context of local administration, which one of the following statements most appropriately describes the term 'sub-contracting'?

(a) A condition when state government delegates a part of its duties to local administration
(b) Task distribution among central, state and local agencies within set parameters
(c) Assigning part of the obligations and tasks under a contract to another party
(d) Sharing obligations between two government agencies under a contract.

25. With reference to local self-governance in India, consider the following statements:

1. The constitution does not confer any inherent taxation powers on the local bodies.
2. The subject of Local governance falls under the Concurrent legislative jurisdiction under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.
3. Powers and functions of Gram Sabha are clearly mentioned in the Constitution.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

26. With reference to 'Evolution of Urban bodies in India', consider the following statements:

1. The Calcutta Municipal Corporation was the first municipal corporation to be set up in India.
2. Lord Ripon's Resolution of Local Self-Government introduced a two-tier system of local governance at municipality level.
3. Under the Government of India Act of 1919, local self-government became a reserved subject under the direct charge of the Governor.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

27. **"It is established through the official notification issued by the respective State Governments and operates in accordance with the concerned State Municipal Act. Typically, it is created to cater to the requirements of areas undergoing rapid urbanisation that have not yet attained Municipality status."**

Which of the following bodies best expresses these characteristics?

(a) Cantonment Board
(b) Notified Area Committee
(c) Township
(d) Special Purpose Agency

28. **With reference to the Metropolitan Planning Committee (MPC), consider the following statements:**

1. The Constitution makes it mandatory for states to set up MPCs in Metropolitan areas.
2. It consists of members from both urban as well as rural local bodies.
3. The Governor can make provision with respect to the functions of MPC in relation to planning and coordination for the metropolitan area.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

29. **Consider the following persons:**

1. The members of the state legislative assembly representing constituencies that comprise, wholly or partly, the municipal area.
2. Members of Lok Sabha elected from any constituency within the state in which the municipality is located.
3. Persons having special knowledge or experience in municipal administration
4. The members of the state legislative council registered as electors within the municipal area

How many of the above persons can be provided representation in a municipality as per the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act 1992?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

30. **What was the key reason behind Dr. B R Ambedkar, opposing the idea of democratic decentralization via Panchayat?**

(a) It would have been financially unviable for the new republic.
(b) The diversity of Indian society was a hinderance to a uniform Panchayati raj system.
(c) Villages were suffering from problems of illiteracy, caste discrimination and social inequality.
(d) There was no caste census available so the policy of reservation would not be possible.

31. **Consider the following provisions:**

1. Direct Elections to all seats in Panchayats at Village level
2. Granting panchayats the powers to levy taxes
3. Establishment of State Election Commission
4. Establishment of State Finance Commission
5. Reservation of seats for backward classes

How many of the above are the compulsory provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

32. **With references to the Panchayati Raj Institutions, consider the following committees:**

1. LM Singhvi Committee
2. Narasimham Committee
3. Usha Thorat Committee
4. Gadgil Committee

How many of the above committees were related to Panchayati Raj?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

33. **With reference to Constitutional provisions concerning local governments prior to 1992, consider the following statements:**

The subject of local government-

1. was controlled largely by the respective State governments without much interference from the Union government.
2. was directly/indirectly mentioned in Part IV of the Constitution.

3. was included in the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

34. With reference to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in India, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: It is mandatory for all States to implement a three-tier PRI system.

Statement-II: The 73rd Constitutional Amendment act aims to establish a uniform system of PRIs throughout the country.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

35. With reference to 'Central Council of Local Government', consider the following statements:

1. It was constituted in 1993 as an attached body of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
2. Presently the council works as an advisory body dealing with matters of urban local government only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

36. Which of the following has been provided in the 74th Amendment Act, 1992 of the Constitution?

1. Municipal Committees
2. Ward Committees
3. Metropolitan Planning Committee
4. District Planning

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

37. With reference to reservations of seats in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), consider the followings statements:

1. The Constitution requires the reservation of at least one-third of seats for the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) at all three levels of PRIs.
2. The reservation provisions do not apply to the offices of chairpersons of the Panchayati Raj Institutions.
3. The Constitution mandates that at least one-third of the reserved seats for Scheduled Castes (SCs) must be given to women belonging to that community.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

38. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: In 1996, the PESA Act was enacted to extend the provisions of the Panchayats to Scheduled Areas.

Statement-II: The 73rd Constitutional amendment act did not apply to certain regions mentioned in the 5th schedule of Constitution.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation of Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation of Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

39. Reservation of seats in Panchayat elections for Scheduled Castes shall not apply to the State of:

(a) Uttar Pradesh
(b) Assam
(c) Arunachal Pradesh
(d) Haryana

40. Consider the following statements regarding the State Election Commission:

1. The members of the State Election Commission are appointed by the President of India.
2. The State Election Commission is subordinate to the Election Commission of India.
3. It is responsible for conducting elections for State Assemblies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

41. Consider the following statements regarding the State Finance Commission:

1. The State Finance Commission is constituted by the President of India after every five years.
2. It recommends ways to improve the financial position of the Panchayati Raj Institutions.
3. Its recommendations are binding on the state government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

42. Consider the following statements with reference to the District Planning Committee (DPC) in India:

1. It consolidates the plans prepared by both panchayats and municipalities in the district.
2. The provisions regarding the composition of such committees may be made by the respective State legislature.
3. At least 50 per cent of the members of DPC must be nominated by the Governor of the respective state.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

43. With reference to 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, consider the following statements with regard to the Gram Sabha:

1. It is mandatory to establish a Gram Sabha in every village or Panchayat area.
2. The Gram Sabha comprises all the people residing in the territory of the village.
3. The specific roles and functions of the Gram Sabha are determined by State legislation.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

44. Which of the following reasons are responsible for ineffective performance of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)?

1. Excessive control by bureaucracy
2. Inadequate powers to Gram Sabha
3. Reluctance to collection of taxes by Gram Panchayat
4. No funding from state governments

Select the correct option from the codes given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

45. Which of the following is the correct method for selecting/appointing the Secretary of the Gram Sabha?

(a) Elected by the Gram Sabha members
(b) Appointed by the Village Head
(c) Appointed by the State Government
(d) Selected by the Zila Panchayat

46. With reference to Town Area Committee, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. It is non-statutory body established by respective state governments.
2. It is an entirely nominated body including the chairperson, who is nominated by the District Magistrate.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

47. With reference to different types of municipal personnel systems in India, consider the following pairs:

Types of Municipal Personnel System	Feature/ description
1. Separate Personnel system	State government appoints, administers, and controls municipal personnel for every local body.
2. United Personnel System	Personnel are transferable between the local bodies in the state.
3. Integrated Personnel System	Each local body appoints, administers, and controls its own personnel.

How many of the above given pairs are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

48. Which among the following are the sources of income for the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in India?
1. Property Tax
2. Payment for Public Utilities
3. Loan from financial institutions
4. Excise Duty

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

49. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: In Panchayati Raj System in India, the Panchs are answerable to Gram Sabha.

Statement II: Panchs are elected by the members of the Gram Sabha.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

50. Which of the following are the possible sources of funds for the Gram Panchayats?
1. Profession tax
2. Water tax
3. Land tax
4. Entertainment tax

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

51. With respect to Indian Polity, which one of the following best reflects an example of "Devolution of Power"?
(a) Legislature cannot discuss the conduct of judges of the Supreme Court and high courts except upon a motion related to removal of the Judges.
(b) The distribution of subjects between the Union List, State List, and Concurrent List under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India.
(c) Transferring of ancillary functions by the legislature to the executive wing of the state.
(d) State legislature transferring "Elementary education" function to the local government.

52. In the establishment of the Panchayati Raj system in India, various committees were appointed to recommend measures for decentralization of power. In this context, consider the following recommendations:
1. Designating the district as the primary unit of decentralization.
2. Fixing the tenure of Panchayati Raj Institutions at four years.
3. Mandating financial devolution to Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Which of the following committee proposed the above recommendations?
(a) Balwant Rai Mehta Committee
(b) Santhanam Committee
(c) Ashok Mehta Committee
(d) P.K. Thungon Committee

53. Which of the following urban local bodies in India is entirely composed of nominated members?

(a) Notified Area Committee
(b) Port Trust
(c) Municipal Corporation
(d) Cantonment Boards

54. With reference to Urban self-government, consider the following statements about Notified Area Committee:

1. It is established based on the law passed by the State legislatures.
2. All the members of the Committee are nominated by the state government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

55. With reference to District Planning committee constituted under 74th Constitutional Amendment Act 1992, consider the following statements:

1. It consolidates the plans prepared by the Panchayats and the Municipalities in the district.
2. The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act provides the minimum and maximum number of members in District Planning Committee in each district.
3. The District Magistrate serves as the ex-officio chairperson of the Committee.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

56. With reference to Indian Polity, Part IXA of Indian Constitution do not automatically apply to:

1. Scheduled Areas
2. Tribal Areas
3. Union Territories
4. Disturbed Areas

Which of the options given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 1,2,3 and 4

57. As per the Constitution of India a person can be disqualified from being a member of a Panchayat in which of the following situations?

1. If he/she is so disqualified by or under any law for the time being in force for the purposes of elections to the legislature of the state concerned.
2. If he/she is less than 25 years of age.
3. If he/she is employed with an annual income of more than Eight lakh rupees.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

58. Which of the following subjects are listed in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India?

1. Agriculture
2. Rural electrification
3. Family welfare
4. Prevention of cruelty to animals

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

59. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: Article 243D of the Constitution of India which provides for reservation for Scheduled Castes (SCs) in Panchayats does not apply to the state of Arunachal Pradesh.

Statement II: Arunachal Pradesh is a state inhabited by indigenous tribal people and there is no community notified as scheduled caste in the state.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II explains Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, but Statement-II does not explain Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

60. As per the constitution of India, any question arises as to whether a member of a Panchayat has become subject to any of the disqualifications mentioned under Article 243F, the question shall be referred for the decision to:

(a) Governor of the state
(b) State election Commission
(c) High court of the state
(d) Authority as such determined by the State Legislature by Law.

61. Arrange the following events concerning local self-governance during the British colonial rule in India, in chronological order:

1. Lord Ripon's Resolution
2. Lord Mayo's Resolution
3. Royal Commission on Decentralisation

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1-2-3
(b) 2-1-3
(c) 2-3-1
(d) 3-2-1

62. In the context of Indian polity, which of the following statements best describes the 'principle of subsidiarity'?

(a) All laws made by the Legislature are subsidiary to Part III of the constitution of India and thus should not be inconsistent with it.
(b) Legislature and executive are subsidiary to the judiciary, which is supreme in law adjudication.
(c) All that can be done optimally at the lowest level should be done at that level of governance.
(d) The executive is given powers through primary legislation to make laws in order to implement the primary legislation.

63. In context of District Planning committee (DPC), consider the following statements:

1. They are statutory bodies.
2. Around half the members of the committee are nominated by the Governor.
3. The chairman of the committee shall forward the draft development plan prepared by the committee to the legislature of the concerned state.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None of the above

64. Consider the following statements about the Gram Sabha:

1. As per the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, the Gram Sabha is required to meet at least twice a year.
2. The specific functions of the Gram Sabha are determined by the state legislature.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

65. Consider the following statements regarding Wards Committees in Indian municipalities:

1. Wards Committees are constituted within the territorial area of a Municipality having a population of three lakhs or more.
2. As per the 74th constitutional amendment act, the seats in a wards committee are filled by direct elections.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

66. With reference to the Cantonment Boards constituted under the Cantonments Act, 2006, consider the following statements:

1. A Cantonment Board is partly elected and partly nominated body.
2. Its Chief Executive Officer is appointed by the Central government.
3. A Cantonment Board is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

67. Consider the following statements with regard to the State Election Commissioner (SEC):

Statement-I: S/he can be removed from office only by the President of India.

Statement-II: The Constitution stipulates that the SEC cannot be removed from his/her office except in like manner and on like grounds as a Judge of a High Court.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation of Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation of Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

68. Consider the following statements with reference to the urban local governance in India:

Statement-I: As per the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992, the Mayor is directly elected by the people.

Statement-II: Legislature of the state can provide for the representation of certain non-elected individuals as members of the municipality by law.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation of Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation of Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

69. Consider the following statement regarding the reservation system in Panchayati Raj:

1. The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act empowers the legislature of a state to reserve seats for backward classes in panchayats at any level.
2. The 106th Constitutional Amendment Act reserves one third of seats for women in Panchayats at all levels.
3. The 103rd Constitutional Amendment Act authorizes the State legislatures to provide for the reservation of seats for Economically Weaker Sections in the Panchayats.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None of the above

70. With reference to State Finance Commission (SFC), consider the following statements:

1. It is constituted by the Governor of a state once in five years.
2. The constitution of India authorizes the Governor of the state to provide for the composition and qualification of the SFC.
3. It recommends the share of allocation of statutory grants from the consolidated fund of India to the local bodies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

71. With reference to Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, consider the following statements:

1. It was formulated based on the recommendation of Bhuria Committee report.
2. One of the objectives of the act is to safeguard and preserve the traditions and customs of tribal communities.
3. It extends the provisions of 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act to the sixth schedule areas.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 2 only

72. Which of the following powers are given to Gram Sabha under PESA Act, 1996?

1. Right to plan and manage minor water bodies in the Scheduled Areas.
2. Collection of taxes from services of primary education, healthcare and water supply in tribal areas
3. Right to be consulted before making acquisition of land in the Scheduled Areas for development projects.
4. Power to restrict the sale and consumption of any intoxicant.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

73. Consider the following statements with reference to the Metropolitan Planning Committee (MPC):
1. Two-thirds of the members are elected by the elected members of the municipalities and chairpersons of panchayats in the metropolitan area from amongst themselves.
2. The Constitution lays down detailed provisions regarding the manner of election of members of MPC.
3. The state legislature is empowered to lay down the functions of the committee regarding planning and coordination for the metropolitan area.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

74. Consider the following:
1. Notified area committee.
2. Town area committee.
3. Township.
4. Port trust.

How many of the above given local bodies are established by an act of state legislature?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

75. Consider the following statements with respect to the Panchayati Raj system in India:
1. The State Election Commission is responsible for conducting the elections to the Panchayat.
2. The State Legislature has the power to make laws related to the delimitation of constituencies for the panchayat elections.
3. An election petition concerning disputes in the panchayat election can be filed only with the High Court of the respective state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 2 only

76. Which of the following are the correct objectives of SVAMITVA Yojana launched by Ministry of Panchayati Raj?
1. To enable citizens in rural areas to use their property as a financial asset for taking loans.
2. To largely reduce the dependency of Panchayati system on state government funding
3. To create accurate land records for rural planning
4. To educate elected representatives of Panchayati Raj institution on governance matters

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

77. Which of the following statements regarding the dissolution of urban local bodies is/are correct?
1. If a municipality is dissolved before completion of its full term, then the new municipality reconstituted does not enjoy a full term of five years.
2. After dissolution, it is not necessary to hold an election for a new municipality if the remainder of the period, for which the dissolved municipality would have continued, is less than six months.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

78. Panchayats in India receives funds from which of the following sources?
1. Allocations for specific programs under Centrally Sponsored Schemes
2. Revenue collections from taxes on land, water and certain other services
3. Funds from Central Bank in form of Gram Development Grant

4. Grants from the Union Government based on the recommendation of Finance Commission

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 4 only

79. With reference to the financial powers of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Constitution empowers the ULBs to levy, collect and retain certain taxes without any interference by the State legislatures.
2. The Department of Finance of a state recommends the process for the distribution of net proceeds of taxes and duties leviable by state between the states and ULBs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

80. In the context of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in India, which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to "Ward Committees"?

1. The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA) mandates State governments to establish Ward committees for all urban local bodies to ensure grassroot democracy.
2. As per the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA), only elected members of urban local bodies can become a member of ward committees.
3. The Chairperson of the Ward committee has to vacate his/her office, if he/she ceases to be a member of the Ward committee.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

81. Consider the following Committees and their key recommendations regarding Panchayati Raj system in India:

Committee	Key Recommendations
1. Ashok Mehta Committee	Setting up of Three tier Panchayati Raj system
2. Balwant Rai Mehta Committee	Establishment of Two tier Panchayati Raj system
3. L M Singhvi Committee	Constitutional recognition to Panchayati Raj system

How many of the above given pairs are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

82. Which of the following are the Voluntary Provision for States under 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act?

1. Fixing tenure of five years for panchayats at all levels
2. Indirect elections to the post of chairperson at intermediate and district levels
3. Providing reservation of seats for backward classes in panchayats
4. Granting financial powers to the panchayats

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 3 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 2 and 4 only

83. Consider the following statements about the differences between Central Finance Commission (CFC) and State Finance Commission (SFC) in India:

1. Central Financial Commission is a constitutional body, whereas SFC is a statutory body.
2. The state legislature provides for the composition of the SFC, while Constitution of India provides for the composition of Central Finance Commission.
3. The recommendations of the CFC are binding on the Government of India, while the recommendations of the SFC are advisory in nature.

How many of the above given statements are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None

84. With reference to panchayats in India, consider the following statements:

1. A state having a population below 20 lakhs may not constitute panchayats at the intermediate level.
2. The provision relating to the reservation of seats in panchayats for the Scheduled Castes is not applicable to Arunachal Pradesh.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

85. Consider the following pairs with reference to Urban Local Bodies:

Types of Urban Local Bodies	Description
1. Notified Area Committee	Created for administration of fast developing town due to industrialization
2. Town Area Committee	Established by large public sector enterprises
3. Township	Created by State Government for administration of a small town
4. Port Trust	It is created by an Act of Parliament

How many pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

86. Consider the following statements regarding the Cantonment Board in India:

1. It works under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. It consists of partly elected and partly nominated members.
3. The executive officer of the cantonment board is appointed by the Central Government.
4. The president of the board is elected by the elected members from amongst themselves for a term of five years.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

7.2. Union Territories/Special Areas

87. Consider the following statements:

1. The President can make regulations with respect to the Union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
2. The Governor of a state can provide that an act of parliament does not apply to a Scheduled Area in that state.
3. The President can modify a parliamentary law in relation to tribal areas in Assam.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

88. With reference to the Fifth Schedule of the Indian constitution, consider the following statements regarding the Scheduled Areas:

1. The Governor of a state declares the scheduled area within that state.
2. The Governor of the respective state has the power to modify the provisions of any legislation prior to its application in scheduled areas.
3. Tribes' advisory council shall be established in each state having scheduled areas

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1 only

89. Consider the following:

An Autonomous District Council established under the sixth schedule of the Indian Constitution:

1. can make laws to manage the reserved forest.
2. can assess and collect land revenue.
3. can constitute village courts for the adjudication of legal matters.

4. can regulate the money lending activities.
5. can collect royalties over minerals extracted in their region.

How many of the above given powers can be exercised by the Autonomous District Council to administer the tribal areas?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

90. Consider the following states:

1. Assam
2. Arunachal Pradesh
3. Meghalaya
4. Tripura
5. Mizoram
6. Manipur

How many of the above states are provided special provisions under Part XXI of the Constitution of India?

(a) Only two
(b) Only four
(c) Only five
(d) All six

91. Part XXI of the constitution contain special provisions for some states in this context, consider the following statements:

1. In the original constitution, Nagaland was the only state that had special provisions under this part.
2. The Acts of Parliament relating to ownership and transfer of land would not apply to Nagaland unless the Governor so decides.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

92. Consider the following statements with regard to the Special provisions related to certain classes in India:

Statement-I: A community declared as a scheduled tribe in one state automatically gets declared the same in other states.

Statement-II: As per the Constitution of India, the President after consultation with the Governor specifies tribes or tribal communities as Scheduled Tribes.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation of Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation of Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

93. With reference to the Constitution of India, consider the following statements with reference to applicability of Central laws in Scheduled Areas and Tribal Areas:

1. The Governor of a State is empowered to direct that any particular Act of Parliament does not apply to a Scheduled Area in that state.
2. The President of India may, by public notification, direct that an Act of Parliament related to certain matters does not apply to an autonomous district in the state of Assam.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

94. If a particular area is brought under the Sixth schedule of the Constitution of India, which among the following statements best reflects the consequences of it?

(a) Separate development boards will be established for these regions.
(b) The states having such areas will be declared as Special Category States.
(c) This would convert that area into Union Territory.
(d) Certain acts of Parliament do not automatically apply to these areas.

95. Consider the following statements with respect to the provisions of the Scheduled areas mentioned in the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India:

1. The authority to exclude or modify the application of Parliamentary or state laws in Scheduled areas rests with the Governor of the state.
2. The Union government has the power to issue directions to the state regarding the administration of Scheduled Areas to ensure effective governance.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

96. Consider the following statements with reference to the special provisions regarding Manipur, mentioned in the Constitution of India:
1. The President can create a committee of the Manipur Legislative Assembly consisting of the members elected in the Assembly from the Hill Areas of Manipur.
2. It is the responsibility of Governor to submit an annual report regarding the administration of the hill areas of Manipur to the President.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

97. Consider the following States:
1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Maharashtra
3. Rajasthan
4. Himachal Pradesh
5. Tamil Nadu

How many of the above States have notified Scheduled Areas under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India?
(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

98. With respect to special provisions for the state of Nagaland in the Indian constitution, consider the following statements:
1. The Governor is required to annually report to the President on the administration of Hill Areas of Nagaland.
2. The Acts of Parliament related to ownership and transfer of land applies to Nagaland only after the approval by the Governor.
3. A Regional Council comprising 35 members must be established for the Tuensang district of the state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

99. With reference to special Constitutional provisions for certain states, consider the following:
1. Protection of land rights of indigenous people.
2. Protection of culture and religion of indigenous people.
3. Preferential employment to government services.
4. Giving rights to frame laws even if they differ from Central Laws.

How many of the above are correct reasons for providing special provisions for certain states in India under Article 371 to 371-J of the Indian Constitution?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

100. With reference to Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:
1. Only the Governor can declare an area as a Schedule Area in a State under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution.
2. Any amendment to the Fifth Schedule requires a Constitutional amendment under Article 368 of the Constitution.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

101. With reference to the Fifth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, the Governor of a State is empowered to establish regulations for Good Governance of the Scheduled Areas of that State. These regulations can:
(a) modify or revoke both Central and State laws after obtaining the President's approval.
(b) modify or revoke any Central or State law without requiring the President's approval.
(c) modify or revoke only State laws but not Central laws.
(d) modify both Central and State laws but is not authorized to revoke any law.

102. Consider the following statements regarding the special provisions with respect to Sikkim under the Constitution of India:

1. The special provisions for Sikkim were added to the Indian Constitution through the 36th Constitutional Amendment Act.
2. As part of the special provisions, Sikkim has been allocated two seats in Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

103. Consider the following statements regarding the administration of Tribal areas under the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution:

1. They have the authority to enact laws concerning property inheritance, marriage and divorce.
2. They possess the capacity to adjudicate disputes among tribal communities.
3. They can establish rules for regulating money lending and trade involving non-tribal individuals.
4. They do not have power to impose taxes and/or collect land revenue.

Which of the above statements regarding functions of Autonomous District Council established in Tribal Areas are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2, 3 and 4
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 and 4 only

104. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Inner Line Permit', often seen in news:

1. It is an official travel document issued by the Government of India to allow inward travel of foreigners into a protected area for a limited period.
2. Presently, this permit is issued for the states of Nagaland, Manipur and Assam only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

105. Consider the following statements with reference to the Union Territory of Lakshadweep:

1. A regulation made by the President of India can repeal or amend any Act made by the Parliament.
2. A non-native person needs a permit to enter or reside in Lakshadweep.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

106. In the context of the administration of tribal areas, which of the following options includes all the States in which specific areas have been notified under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution of India?

(a) Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura
(b) Assam, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland
(c) Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura
(d) Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram

107. Consider the following statements with reference to the 'Control of the Union over the Administration of Scheduled Areas and the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes':

1. According to the Constitution of India, the Parliament must appoint a Commission to report on the administration of the Scheduled Areas.
2. The Union has executive power to give directions to a State for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the State.
3. First commission regarding the administration of Scheduled Areas and the Welfare of STs was appointed under DB Kalelkar.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) None of the above

108. Under Section 10(26) of the Income Tax Act, which of the following category of people are exempted from income tax?

(a) Members of the Scheduled Tribes in all the states.
(b) Members of the Scheduled Tribes and the Scheduled Castes in Special Category states.
(c) Members from the Economically Backward Class in all the states.
(d) Members of the Scheduled Tribes in states of Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura

109. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: Gujarat has a Tribes Advisory Council as per the fifth schedule of the Constitution of India.

Statement II: As per the Constitution of India, President of India can direct a state to establish Tribes Advisory Council which has Scheduled Tribes but no notified Scheduled Area as per the fifth schedule.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

110. Consider the following:

1. To prevent alienation of land in the Scheduled Areas and to take appropriate action to restore any unlawfully alienated land of a Scheduled Tribe.
2. To enforce prohibition or to regulate or restrict the sale and consumption of any intoxicant.
3. To allocate government contracts and tenders related to infrastructure development.
4. To exercise control over money lending to Scheduled Tribes.
5. To manage the village markets.

Which of the above powers are given to the Gram Sabha under the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2, 4 and 5 only
(c) 2, 4 and 5 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

111. With reference to Social Reforms in India, the Bhuria Committee is related to-

(a) reforming Tribal Institutions and their governance
(b) reservation for Scheduled Castes in local bodies
(c) preservation of Linguistic Minority in India
(d) agricultural Land reforms in India

112. Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act,1996 extends the provision of Part IX of the Indian Constitution to certain areas. In this context consider the following states:

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Chhattisgarh
3. Odisha
4. Maharashtra
5. Assam

At present, PESA is applicable to the scheduled areas of how many of the above given states?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

113. With reference to the administration of Tribal Areas under the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, which of the following authorities has the power to dissolve a Regional Council?

(a) Governor
(b) President
(c) State Legislature
(d) Parliament

114. The Constitution of India enumerates various provisions for safeguarding the rights of the Scheduled Tribes (STs). In this context, consider the following statements:

1. The Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSPs) specifically mandates the State to promote the economic interests of the STs.
2. According to the Constitution, the right to reservation in promotion for the STs in government jobs is a 'Fundamental Right'.
3. The Constitution of India makes it mandatory for some states to appoint a Minister in charge of tribal welfare.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

SOLUTIONS

7.1. Local Governments

1. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992 accorded constitutional status to rural local bodies. It added a new Part IX to the constitution titled "The Panchayats" covering provisions from Article 243 to 243(O). It also added a new Eleventh Schedule covering 29 subjects within the functions of the Panchayats.

Statement 1 is correct. The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments were passed by the Parliament in 1992. They were **enacted during the prime ministership of P. V. Narasimha Rao (1991–1996).** He was the 9th Prime minister of India. The 73rd and 74th Amendments came into force in 1993.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Amendment to the Constitution of India **did not transfer the subject of 'local government' from State List to Concurrent List** of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

The subject of **'local government' is presently listed in the State List** (item 5) of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Article 40 in the Constitution of India says that the State shall take steps to organize village panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self-government. It is one of the Directive Principles of State Policy. **It was there in the original constitution.** It was not introduced by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act.

2. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Direct democracy means citizens' direct participation in democratic decision-making. It is also known as pure democracy, in which the people decide on policy ideas without the assistance of elected representatives.

Gram Sabha is an example of direct democracy, where the citizens directly participate in the day-to-day decision-making. In Gram Sabha meetings, residents come together to discuss and decide on various local issues, including rural development projects, resource management, and social welfare programs. This allows for direct involvement in decision-making without the need for elected representatives. Hence statement c is correct.

Statement a is incorrect: Gram Sabha is not an elected body.

Statement b is incorrect: There are four devices of direct democracy:

1. Initiative: Under this, citizens can **propose new laws** or amendments to existing laws.
2. Referendum: This involves putting a proposed law or a significant decision directly to the voters.
3. Recall: Citizens can petition to **remove an elected official** from office before their term is completed.
4. Plebiscite: It is a direct vote by the people on a specific issue, often used to decide constitutional changes or major policy decisions.

Gram Sabha does not use all of the above-mentioned tools of direct democracy. In no case Plebiscite has been used as a tool by Gram Sabha.

Statement d is incorrect: Decisions may or may not be taken based on the consensus method. But it is not the main reason for considering it as an example of direct democracy.

3. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The **73rd Amendment 1992** added a new **Part IX** to the constitution titled "The Panchayats" covering provisions from **Article 243 to 243(O);** and a new **Eleventh Schedule** covering **29 subjects** within the functions of the Panchayats.

The provisions of Part IX are not applicable to the following:

1. **Entire states of Nagaland, Meghalaya and Mizoram**
2. Hill areas in the State of Manipur for which District Councils are present
3. The district level provisions shall not apply to the hill areas of the District of Darjeeling in the State of West Bengal which affect the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council.
4. The reservation provisions are not applicable to Arunachal Pradesh.

As per Article 243M(4) the Legislature of the state of Nagaland can extend the provisions of Part IX to the state of Nagaland.

4. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Panchayati Raj System in India was constitutionalised by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.

Option 1 is correct: The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 has also **added a new Eleventh Schedule to the Constitution.** This schedule contains **29 functional items** of the panchayats. It deals with **Article 243-G.**

Option 2 is incorrect: The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 **did not add Article 43A to the Constitution,which was in fact added through the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act,1976.** The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 **gave a practical shape to Article 40 in Part IV** (Directive Principles of State Policy) that says, "State shall take steps to organise village panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self-government".

Option 3 is incorrect: The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 **did not amend the powers of the Election Commission of India (ECI) under Article 324** of the

Constitution. The Act, however, **added Article 243K that enshrines the provisions with respect to elections** of the Panchayats. This article provides for the constitution of a State Election Commission (SEC) in respect of the Panchayats. This State Election Commission would have the power to supervise, direct and control the elections to the Panchayats and also prepare the electoral rolls.

5. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The chairperson of panchayats at the intermediate and district levels shall be elected indirectly by and from amongst the elected members thereof.

However, **the chairperson of a panchayat at the village level shall be elected in such manner as the state legislature determines.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Holding of elections to the panchayats is the responsibility of the State Governments and the State Election Commissions (SEC). The Constitution mandates that where the **Part IX** of the Constitution applies, panchayat elections be conducted every five years, under the overall superintendence, direction and control of the SEC. The Constitution also **empowers the State Legislations to make laws regarding elections.**

6. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992** added **Article 243D** to the Constitution that provides for reservation of seats in panchayats. It **provides for the reservation of seats for scheduled Castes and scheduled Tribes in every panchayat** (i.e., at all three levels) in proportion of their population to the total population in the panchayat area. It also provides for the **reservation of not less than one-third of the total number of seats for women** (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the SCs and STs). Further, not less than one-third of the total number of offices of chairpersons in the panchayats at each level shall be reserved for women.

As per the article, the Legislature of a State from making any provision for reservation of seats in any Panchayat or offices of Chairpersons in the **Panchayats at any level in favour of backward class of citizens (nowhere it talks about reservation for economically weaker section of citizens).**

Statement 2 is correct: The **provision relating to the reservation of seats in panchayats** (both members and chairpersons) for the scheduled castes **is not applicable to the state of Arunachal Pradesh.** This is because the State is inhabited fully by indigenous tribal people and there are no scheduled castes. This provision was added later by the 83rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 2000.

7. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The **State Finance Commission (SFC)** is a constitutional body constituted by the **Governor of a state** every five years under **Article 243-I** of the Indian Constitution. It plays a crucial role in recommending the **distribution of financial resources** between the state government and local bodies, including **Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).**

Statement 1 is incorrect: As per Article 243I State Finance Commission will review the financial position of the Panchayats and to make recommendations to the Governor as to principles that should **govern the grants-in-aid to the Panchayats from the Consolidated Fund of the State (not the Consolidated Fund of India).**

Statement 2 is correct: Article 243I allows the **state legislature to determine the qualifications** for appointment as members of the commission and **the manner in which they shall be selected.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: As per Article 280 of the Indian Constitution, **Finance commission has the duty to make recommendations to the President as to the the measures needed to augment the Consolidated Fund of a State to supplement the resources of the Panchayats in the State on the basis of the recommendations made by the Finance Commission of the State**

Statement 4 is incorrect: The **President of India** does **not** have the authority to remove members of the **State Finance Commission.** Since the SFC is a state-level body, its members are appointed and removed by the **Governor** of the state.

8. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act in 1996 extends the provisions of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment to the Scheduled Areas of India, giving significant powers to Gram Sabhas to preserve tribal self-governance and protect their resources, customs, and rights.

Statement 1 is correct: According to the Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act in 1996, State Legislature shall ensure that the Panchayats at the appropriate level and the Gram Sabha are endowed specifically with:

1. the power to prohibit, regulate, or restrict the sale and consumption of any intoxicants.
2. **The ownership of minor forest produces and manages village markets.**
3. The power to prevent alienation of Scheduled Area land and to take appropriate action to restore any Scheduled Tribe land that has been unlawfully alienated.
4. The power to exercise control over institutions and functionaries in all social sectors and to exert control over money lending to Scheduled Tribes.
5. The authority to direct local plans and resources, including tribal sub-plans, for such plans.

Statement 2 is correct: The reservation of seats in the Scheduled Areas in every Panchayat shall be in proportion to the population of the communities for whom reservation is sought to be given under Part IX of the Constitution. However, the reservation for the Scheduled Tribes shall not

be less than one-half of the total number of seats. Further, **all seats of Chairpersons of Panchayats at all levels shall be reserved for the Scheduled Tribes.**

9. Solution: (c)

Exp) option c is the correct answer.

Every metropolitan area shall have a metropolitan planning committee to prepare a draft development plan

Statement 1 is incorrect: Two-thirds of the members of the MPC are **elected** by the elected members of the municipalities and chairpersons of the panchayats within the metropolitan area. **They are not appointed by the State Government.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The **state legislature has the responsibility to make provisions** with respect to the following:

1. The composition of such planning committees;
2. The manner of election of members of such committees;
3. The representation in such committees of the Central government, state government and other organisations;
4. The functions of such committees in relation to planning and coordination for the metropolitan area;
5. **The manner of election of chairpersons of such committees. (Constitution doesnot provides the same)**

10. Solution: (b)

Exp) option b is the correct answer.

The **74th Amendment Act of 1992** has added a new Part IX-A to the Constitution of India. This part is entitled as 'The Municipalities' and consists of provisions from **Articles 243-P to 243-ZG.** In addition, the act has also added a new **Twelfth Schedule** to the Constitution. This schedule contains **eighteen functional items** of municipalities.

Article 243ZB of 74th Amendment Act of 1992 specifically mentions that the provisions related to municipalities (Part IX-A) apply to the Union Territories with such **exceptions and modifications** as the **President** may specify in a notification.

11. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 added Part IXA to the Indian Constitution, providing a constitutional status to Urban Local Bodies (Municipalities). Article 243U under this part deals with the duration of municipalities, their premature dissolution. It ensures democratic decentralization in urban governance and aims to maintain continuity and accountability in municipal administration.

Statement 1 is correct. As per Article 243 U of the Constitution of India- Every Municipality, unless sooner dissolved under any law for the time being in force, shall continue for five years from the date appointed for its first meeting and no longer

Statement 2 is incorrect. According to **Article 243U**, when a municipality is **reconstituted after a premature dissolution**, it **does not enjoy a fresh five-year term.** Instead, it serves **only for the remainder of the original term.** This provision ensures that the fixed five-year electoral cycle is maintained and not arbitrarily extended due to political or administrative maneuvering.

12. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

In 1988, a sub-committee of the consultative committee of parliament was constituted under

the chairmanship of P.K Thungon to examine the political and administrative structure in the district for the purpose of district planning.

Statement 1 is correct. The P. K. Thungon Committee **recommended constitutional recognition for the local government bodies.** The committee recommended constitutional amendment to provide for periodic elections to local government institutions, and enlistment of appropriate functions to them, along with funds.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Thungon Committee recommended a 3-tier system of local bodies with panchayats at the village, block and district level.

The Ashok Mehta Committee recommended a two-tier system of local bodies with zila parishad at the district level, and below it, the mandal panchayat.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The Gadgil Committee recommended the establishment of a State Election Commission for the conduction of elections to the panchayats.

Important Tips

Major recommendations of Thungon Committee:

- Local government bodies should be constitutionally recognized
- 3-tier system of local bodies with panchayats at the village, block and district level
- Zilla parishad should be the pivot of the panchayati raj system
- Local government bodies should have a fixed tenure of 5 years
- Reservation of seats in all the three-tiers should be on the basis of population. There should also be reservation for women
- A state finance commission should be set-up in each state to provide for the devolution of finances to the local bodies.
- The district collector should be the chief executive officer of the Zilla Parishad

13. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

A Mayor, in India, is the chairperson of a Municipalities. The 74th Constitution Amendment Act of 1992 provides for three types of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) — Nagar Panchayats, Municipal Councils and Municipal Corporations.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992 **did not prescribe the manner of election of the Chairpersons of Urban Local Bodies.** It is to be decided by the respective state Legislature on how the Chairpersons of Urban Local Bodies are to be elected. Thus, some of the States provide for direct elections of Chairpersons and some prescribed indirect elections.

In states like Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, West Bengal, Maharashtra and Gujarat, the Chairpersons are elected from amongst the elected Councillors, i.e. by an "indirect election". In Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, Chairpersons are elected "directly" through adult franchise.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992 provides that the offices of the Chairpersons in the municipalities **shall be reserved** for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and women **in such manner as the Legislature of a State may, by law, provide.**

14. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement-I is incorrect: The **Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA) was enacted by the Government of India in 1996** on the recommendations of the Bhuria Committee appointed in 1994 under the chairmanship of Mr. Dileep Singh Bhuria. The aim of the PESA Act, 1996 was **to extend the provisions of Panchayats to the scheduled areas mentioned under the Fifth Schedule of the Indian Constitution (Not Sixth Schedule).** The idea behind this act is that local traditions of self-government should be protected while introducing modern elected bodies.

Statement-II is correct: As per **Article 243M of the Indian Constitution Part IX of the Indian Constitution shall not apply** to the Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tries referred to in the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution and the **Tribal Areas referred to in Sixth Schedule.**

15. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 243K and Article 243ZA talks about constitution of State Election Commision and the State Election Commissioner is appointed by the Governor of a State. The Governor determines their conditions of service and tenure of office. However, the SEC can be removed only by the President of India and only in a manner and on the grounds as a Judge of a High Court.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The State Election Commissioner (SEC) is responsible for conducting elections to the Panchayati Raj institutions (not the State Legislative Assembly).

Statement 3 is incorrect: State Election Commission is autonomous like the Election Commission of India. Thus, the State Election Commission is an independent office and is not linked to nor is this office under the control of the Election Commission of India.

16. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 provided a three-tier Panchayati structure. All States now have a uniform three-tier Panchayati Raj structure except few with less population. The amendment also made a provision for the mandatory creation of the Gram Sabha. Gram Sabha is a permanent body defined under Article 243(b) of the Constitution of India. In India, the Gram Sabha serves as a notable example of direct democracy, wherein citizens actively engage in local-level decision-making, contributing to grassroots governance and community development.

Statement 2 is correct: The Gram Sabha would comprise all the adult members registered as voters in the Panchayat area. Persons, those who are above 18 years of age and living in the village and whose names are included in the electoral rolls for the Panchayat at the village level are members of Gram Sabha.

Gram Sabha is the Sabha of the electorate. All other institutions of the Panchayati Raj like the Gram Panchayat, Block Panchayat and Zilla Parishad are constituted by elected representatives.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The role and functions of the Gram Sabha are decided by State legislation. The Constitution mentions that Gram Sabha exercises such powers and performs such functions at the village level as the Legislature of a State may, by law, provide. For instance, they approve of the plans, programmes and projects for social and economic development before such plans, programmes and projects are taken up for implementation by the Panchayat at the village level.

The decisions taken by the Gram Sabha cannot be annulled by any other body. The power to annul a decision of the Gram Sabha rests with the Gram Sabha only.

17. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Panchayats are local self-government bodies in rural India. They are a cornerstone of India's democratic system and play a crucial role in rural development and governance.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (1992) provides for a 3-tier system of Panchayati Raj institutions (PRIs). However, there is an exception for States with a population of less than 20 lakhs, such states are not required to establish the intermediate (block/mandal) level of Panchayats. For such states, the Panchayati Raj system operates with only two tiers: the Gram Panchayat and the Zilla Panchayat.

Statement 2 is correct. The Zilla Panchayat is the apex body in the 3-tier Panchayati Raj system. It operates at the district level and covers the entire rural area of the district.

18. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Ward Councillors are elected representatives in municipal corporations. They are responsible for representing the

interests of their specific ward or electoral division within the local body.

Statement 1 is correct. All of the Ward Councillors meet and make a budget and the money is spent according to this. The Ward Councillors try and ensure that the particular demands of their wards are placed before the entire council.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Ward Councillors are part of the legislative wing of the municipality.

Their role is primarily to deliberate on policies and decisions in the Municipal Council and ensure that the needs of their wards are reflected in these decisions. Implementation of these decisions is the responsibility of the executive wing, headed by the Municipal Commissioner and administrative staff, not the councillors themselves.

19. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992 mandates the reservation of seats for certain categories of people in Panchayat Raj Institutions.

Option 1 is correct: As per Article 243D(1)(b) of Indian constitution, the seats are reserved in every Panchayat for Scheduled Tribes in proportion to their population in the Panchayat area.

Option 2 is correct: Article 243D(1)(a) of Indian constitution provides for the reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes in proportion to their population in the Panchayat area.

Option 3 is correct: As per Article 243D (2) of Indian constitution, one-third of the total seats in every Panchayat (including the reserved seats for SCs and STs women) are reserved for women.

Option 4 is incorrect: The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act does not include any specific provisions for the reservation of seats for Anglo-Indians in Panchayat Raj Institutions.

Option 5 is incorrect: While the Constitution does not mandate reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) under the 73rd Amendment, it grants states the authority to provide for OBC reservations in Panchayats if they deem it necessary.

20. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Nyaya Panchayats were established to administer justice at the village level. The first Nyaya Panchayats, known as 'Village Courts,' were created during colonial British government in India. Since independence, most states have enacted Village Panchayat Acts, in line with the Directive Principles of State Policy, leading to the establishment of statutory Nyaya Panchayat legislation. These village courts have often been successful in bringing about an agreement amongst contending parties

Statement 1 is correct: The jurisdiction of Nyaya Panchayat is both civil and criminal. They possess the authority to hear some petty civil and criminal cases such as money due on contracts, compensation for wrongfully taking or damaging property, harassment of women and dowry violence, criminal negligence or trespass, nuisance, possession or use of weights and measures etc.

Statement 2 is correct: Nyaya Panchayats can impose fines for minor offenses but cannot award imprisonment or more severe sentences. Their role is limited to resolving disputes and imposing light penalties such as fines, rather than executing formal legal sentences.

21. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Panchayati Raj system in India has deep historical roots, tracing back to ancient times when rural communities organized themselves through local institutions to manage their affairs. Village autonomy was especially significant during the Mughal era, where local governance structures remained largely intact with minimal interference from the central administration. However, the formalization of rural self-government came with the Ripon Resolution of 1882, which introduced a more structured system of local governance.

Statement 1 is correct: In modern times, A formal structure for rural self-government with elected local government bodies were introduced based on the Ripon Resolution of 1882. This resolution, initiated by Lord Ripon, the Viceroy of India, led to the creation of Local Boards, which were intended to decentralize governance and empower local communities. These bodies aimed to involve local populations in administrative functions, thereby promoting self-governance at the grassroots level.

Statement 2 is correct: In 1927, the Simon Commission's terms of reference included enquiring about the functioning of local self-government in India and suggesting measures for improvement. The Commission highlighted several significant issues, such as the large size of districts in India, which made local governance difficult to manage, and the insufficient financial resources available to local bodies. It also noted the lack of public spirit among voters, which hindered active participation in the democratic process, and the absence of adequate control by provincial governments over local self-government institutions, leading to inefficiency in administration.

22. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 243G of the Indian Constitution empowers the Legislature of a State to transfer powers, authority, and responsibilities to the Panchayats. These powers relate to matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule, which includes 29 subjects primarily concerned with local development and welfare functions such as agriculture, education, health, and sanitation.

The actual transfer of these powers is not automatic; it depends on the enactment of specific laws by the State Legislature. Each state has the discretion to decide how

many of the 29 subjects will be devolved to Panchayati Raj Institutions, and to what extent, based on its governance priorities and framework.

23. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 243C (5)(a) of the Constitution states that Chairperson of the Panchayat at village level **shall be elected in such manner as Legislature of the State may by law provide.**

Statement 2 is correct: As per Article 243E- "Every Panchayat, unless sooner dissolved under any law for the time being in force, shall continue for five years from the date appointed for its first meeting and no longer". The **Gram Panchayat is elected for five years** after every fresh election. However, Gram Panchayat re-elected after dissolution of previous Gram Panchayat serves only for the remaining term of previous Gram Panchayat and does not enjoy full five years term in this scenario. Gram Panchayat meets regularly and one of its main tasks is to implement development programmes for all villages that come under it. The work of the Gram Panchayat has to be approved by the Gram Sabha.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The **Gram Panchayat has a secretary** who is also the Secretary of the Gram Sabha. This person **is not an elected person but is appointed by the government.** The Secretary is responsible for calling the meeting of the Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat and keeping a record of the proceedings.

24. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In the context of local administration, **subcontracting refers to the practice of assigning or outsourcing part of the obligations and tasks under a contract to another party known as a subcontractor.** Subcontracting is especially prevalent in areas where complex projects are the norm, such as construction and information technology. Subcontractors are hired by the project's general contractor, who continues to have overall responsibility for project completion and execution within its stipulated parameters and deadlines. This can create a subcontractor risk for compliance.

25. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The constitution does not confer any particular tax raising powers on the Panchayats. It is for the state legislatures to decide which taxes the panchayats in that state are eligible to levy and collect.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The 73rd and 74th constitutional amendment acts of 1992, placed local governance in the State (not the Concurrent) List. Thus, matters related to local governance (both rural and urban) are placed under the legislative competence of the state.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The act provides for a Gram Sabha as the foundation of the Panchayati raj system. The Constitution says "it may exercise such powers and perform such functions at the village level as the legislature of a state determines". Hence, Powers and functions of Gram Sabha are not clearly mentioned in the Constitution.

26. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 is very important for the urban local bodies. This Constitutional Amendment Act recognized urban local bodies (ULBs) as the third tier of urban government by assigning them specific civic functions. The origins of urban local bodies in India can be traced back to the early days of British rule, when the company administration was responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads, irrigation, and schools among other things.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **first municipal corporation in India was established in Madras** in 1687 as a result of a **Charter Act passed by James II**, the British monarch at the time. Municipal governance in India was first introduced in 1687 when the Madras Municipal Corporation was formed, followed by the creation of the Calcutta Municipal Corporation and the Bombay Municipal Corporation in 1726.

Statement 2 is correct: In 1882, **Lord Ripon's Resolution of Local Self-Government** created the outline and structure of municipal governance in India. It introduced a **two-tier system of governance at municipal level** to increase governance efficiency through decentralisation of functions. According to Lord Ripon's Resolution of Local Bodies in 1882, district boards and local boards were formed. Such boards in rural areas were known as 'taluk' or 'tehsil'.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Under the dyarchical scheme introduced in the provinces by Government of India Act of 1919, local self-government became a transferred subject under the charge of responsible Indian minster.

27. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

In India, **eight categories of Urban Local Bodies** (ULBs) were established to improve the governance of urban areas. These bodies include **Municipal Corporation, Municipality, Notified Area Committee, Town Area Committee, Cantonment Board, Township, Port Trust, and Special Purpose Agency.**

Option a is incorrect: A Cantonment Board set up under the provisions of the Cantonments Act of 2006, a legislation enacted by the Central government. It works under the administrative control of the Defense ministry of the Central government. They are created as well as administered by the Central government.

Option b is correct: A Notified Area Committee (NAC) is a local urban government body established by the **respective State Government** through a gazette notification, hence the term "Notified Area". Further, NAC function within the framework of the concerned State Municipal Act,

NAC are normally created in areas that are **rapidly urbanising or experiencing industrial growth** and require local governance and administration. They are formed to manage and oversee the administration and development of **specific urban areas that are not yet fully incorporated as municipalities** or municipal corporations. They serve as an intermediate level of urban local government.

Option c is incorrect: Township is a form of urban governance **established by large public enterprises**. It is designed to offer civic amenities to the employees and workers residing in housing colonies constructed near industrial plants and facilities.

Option d is incorrect: Special Purpose Agency (SPA) has been **set up by the State Governments either as a Statutory body or as an Executive body**. SPA is a Single purpose body because it was constituted to undertake specific functions that belong to the domain of Urban Local Governments.

28. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The Constitution makes it mandatory for States to set up MPCs in areas with population of 10 lakh and above. MPC is required to prepare a draft development plan.

Statement 2 is correct: Although this is a body related to urban local governance, and is under Part IXA, elected members from both urban local bodies and rural local bodies (only chairpersons of Panchayats in that metropolitan area) form a part of this committee.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The State Legislature can make provision with respect to the functions of MPC in relation to planning and coordination for the metropolitan area.

Important Tips

The state legislature may make provisions with respect to the following aspects of Metropolitan Planning Committee (MPC):

1. The composition of such committees;
2. The manner of election of members of such committees;
3. The representation in such committees of the Central government, state government and other organisations;
4. The functions of such committees in relation to planning and coordination for the metropolitan area; and
5. The manner of election of chairpersons of such committees.

29. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1, 3 and 4 are correct & Statement 2 is incorrect:

74th Constitutional Amendment Act provide for the representation of the following persons in a municipality:

- Persons having special knowledge or experience in municipal administration without the right to vote in the meetings of municipality.
- The members of the Lok Sabha and the state legislative assembly representing constituencies that comprise wholly or partly the municipal area.
- The members of the Rajya Sabha and the state legislative council registered as electors within the municipal area.
- The chairpersons of committees (other than wards committees).

30. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

According to Ambedkar, villages were unfit for the democratic decentralization as there was a lot of illiteracy, caste discrimination and social inequality in the villages. On November 4, 1948 Dr B.R. Ambedkar, while moving a motion in the Constituent Assembly for consideration of the Draft Constitution of India, made certain observations about the village. He said, "What is the village but a sink of localism, a den of ignorance, narrow mindedness, and communalism [putting your own ethnic group ahead of society]" This was in contrast to what Gandhiji and many other members of constituent Assembly believe, which was democratic decentralization should be adopted.

31. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992** is a landmark piece of legislation that has **empowered the Gram Panchayats** and made them the real instruments of **self-government** at **the village level.** The compulsory provisions of the Act ensure that the Gram Panchayats are **democratically elected, financially independent, and accountable to the people.**

Option 1 is correct- The Gram Sabha is a **general assembly of the people of a village or group of villages.** It is the **primary institution of self-government** at the village level. The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act makes it **compulsory** for **direct elections to all seats** in **panchayats at the village, intermediate, and district levels.** This means that all members of panchayats at all three levels must be elected directly by the people

Option 2 is incorrect- Providing financial powers to the panchayats, that is, authorizing them to collect, levy and appropriate taxes, tolls, duties and fees is a **voluntary provision of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.**

Option 3 is correct- The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992** makes it **compulsory to establish a State Election Commission** in **every state** to conduct elections to the Gram Panchayats. The State Election Commission is an independent body that is responsible for ensuring that the elections are free and fair.

Option 4 is correct- The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992** makes it **compulsory to establish a State Finance Commission** in **every state every five years** to review the financial position of the Gram Panchayats and to make recommendations on the distribution of resources to the Gram Panchayats.

Option 5 is incorrect- Providing reservation of seats (both members and chairpersons) for backward classes in panchayats at any level is a **voluntary provision of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.** Rather, the act makes it **compulsory to have the reservation of seats (for members and chairpersons) for SCs, STs, and women in village panchayats at all levels.**

32. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

In India, the term **'Panchayati Raj'** refers to the **rural local self-government system**, which has been implemented in Indian states through **state legislative acts** with the aim of **promoting grassroots democracy and rural development.** The constitutional framework for this system was solidified through the **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992.**

Option 1 is correct- The **L.M. Singhvi Committee**, appointed by the Government of India in 1986, proposed several key recommendations for **revitalizing the Panchayati Raj system**. These included constitutional recognition of **Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) for stability, regular elections for democratic accountability, sufficient financial resources for effective functioning, decentralization of powers to PRIs, and the strengthening of Gram Sabhas to enhance local decision-making.**

Option 2 is incorrect- The **Narasimham Committee**, formed in **1991** by the Government of India and chaired by **M. Narasimham**, a former RBI governor, made key recommendations related to the **financial health of the banking sector** in its November 1991 report. These included **enhancing the autonomy of the Reserve Bank of India for financial system regulation, liberalizing the banking sector to boost competition and efficiency, and improving governance in the financial sector through regulatory framework strengthening and enhanced transparency.**

Option 3 is incorrect- The **Usha Thorat Committee**, appointed by **SEBI in 2020** and led by former RBI deputy governor Usha Thorat, submitted its report in July 2021. The report recommended **consolidating mutual fund regulations into a single rulebook for easier compliance, simplifying compliance requirements to reduce costs for mutual fund companies, and enhancing transparency in the mutual fund industry to aid investor decision-making.**

Option 4 is correct- The **Gadgil Committee, 1988** led by **Madhav Gadgil**, a former member of the Planning Commission, presented its report which suggested **reinforcing the financial resources of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) by allocating a greater share of central and state government taxes, granting PRIs the authority to raise revenue through taxes and user charges.** It also recommended **decentralizing powers and functions to PRIs across multiple domains, and enhancing their capacity through training, access to information, and technology.**

33. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments, passed in 1992, gave constitutional status to Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) respectively. These amendments were enacted to decentralise power and strengthen local self-governance in rural and urban areas.

Statement 1 is correct: Prior to the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments in 1992, State governments had large control over local government without much interference from the Union Government. However, following the constitutional amendments, the States were required to revise their local government laws to align them with the amended Constitution. They were granted a one-year period to make the required adjustments in their state laws in accordance with these amendments.

Statement 2 is correct: Part IV of the Constitution (related to Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP)) **does contain mention of the subject village panchayats.** Article 40 says, State shall take steps to organise **village panchayats** and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as **units of self-government.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: Local governments were not included in the Fourth Schedule, which pertains to nominations to the **Rajya Sabha**. Instead, certain local government positions and representatives were nominated to the **Legislative Councils of the States** (Article 171), not the Rajya Sabha.

34. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA) of 1992 is a landmark legislation that brought about significant changes in the country's Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) or local government bodies at the rural level.

Statement-I is incorrect: The three-tier Panchayati Raj Institution **(PRI) system includes Gram Panchayats** at the village level, **Panchayat Samitis** at the intermediate or block level, and **Zilla Parishads** at the district level. The Constitution (73rd CAA) **exempts small states from establishing intermediate level** (Panchayat Samitis), thus all states need not constitute 3 tier PRIs. A state having a population not exceeding 20 lakh may not constitute panchayats at the intermediate level.

Statement-II is correct: The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, passed in 1992, aimed to establish a **uniform system of PRIs across India**. It provided a framework for the functioning of PRIs, their composition, powers, and responsibilities. However, it is important to note that while it proposes a uniform system, some details (including structure of PRIs) may vary from one state to another based on local requirements such as population.

35. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Central Council of Local Government was set up in 1954. It was constituted under

Article 263 of the Constitution of India by an order of the President of India.

Statement 2 is correct: The Council is an advisory body. It consists of the Minister for Urban Development in the Government of India and the ministers for local self-government in states. The union minister acts as the Chairman of the Council. Till 1958, it dealt with both urban as well as rural local governments, but after 1958 it dealt with matters of urban local government only.

Important Tips

The Central Council of Local Government performs the following functions with regard to local government:

(i) Considering and recommending the policy matters

(ii) Making proposals for legislation

(iii) Examining the possibility of cooperation between the Centre and the states

(iv) Drawing up a common programme of action

(v) Recommending Central financial assistance

(vi) Reviewing the work done by the local bodies with the Central financial assistance

36. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Option 1 is incorrect: 74th Amendment Act does not mention municipal committees as a type of urban local government. It only mentions three types of municipalities: nagar panchayats, municipal councils and municipal corporations.

Option 2 is correct: 74th Amendment Act provides for the constitution of ward committees at ward level or other level within the territorial area of a municipality as may be provided in the state law.

Option 3 is correct: 74th Amendment Act provides for the constitution of a metropolitan planning committee for every metropolitan area, which is an area having a population of ten lakhs or more, to prepare a draft development plan for the area.

Option 4 is correct: 74th Amendment Act provides for the constitution of a district planning committee for every district, to consolidate the plans prepared by the panchayats and the municipalities in the district and to prepare a draft development plan for the district as a whole.

37. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The reservation provisions introduced by the **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA)** was a significant step in promoting social justice and inclusive governance at the grassroots level. These provisions ensured adequate representation for marginalized communities and women in local self-government bodies.

Statement 1 is incorrect: While **the Constitution (73rd CAA)** mandates reservations for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) at all three levels of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), it **does not specify a reservation of one-third of seats for Other Backward Classes (OBCs).** However, the Constitution allows the respective State governments to extend reservation benefits to OBCs based on their local requirements.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Constitution (73rd CAA) provides reservation benefits to chairpersons at all three levels of Panchayati Raj Institutions **(PRIs)**. Article 243D says, the **offices of the Chairpersons in the Panchayats at the village or any other level shall be reserved for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and women** in such manner as the Legislature of a State may, by law, provide. It also says, **not less than one-third of the total number of offices of Chairpersons in the Panchayats at each level shall be reserved for women.**

Statement 3 is correct: It is true that the Constitution (73rd CAA) mandates that a **minimum of one-third of the reserved seats for Scheduled Castes (SCs)/Scheduled Tribes (STs) at all three levels of PRIs must be allocated to women from that community.** This means that a seat can be reserved for both a female candidate and an individual from the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes at the same time.

38. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement-I is correct, and Statement-II are correct. Statement-II is the correct explanation of Statement-I.

The 73rd constitutional amendment was passed in 1992 to strengthen local self-government in rural India. However, under **Article 243(M), its application to scheduled and tribal territories was limited.** Following the recommendations of the Bhuria Committee in 1995, the Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act 1996 was enacted. **PESA was enacted to extend the provisions of the 73rd Amendment (Panchayats)** to the Constitution to the Scheduled Areas in order to empower local self-governance in these tribal regions. As 73rd **Amendment** to the Constitution doesn't apply to the 5th schedule of the Constitution. PESA provides a legal framework for local governance that takes into account the unique needs and customs of tribal communities in scheduled areas.

39. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Reservation of seats in Panchayat elections for Scheduled Castes shall not apply to the State of Arunachal Pradesh because:

- Arunachal Pradesh does not have any Scheduled Castes population as per the Census of India 2011.
- Article 243M(4)(b) of the Constitution exempts Arunachal Pradesh from the application of Part IX relating to Panchayats, except for the provisions relating to the Gram Sabha and the reservation of seats for Scheduled Tribes.
- The Arunachal Pradesh Panchayati Raj Act, 1997 provides for reservation of seats for Scheduled Tribes and women in PRIs, but not for Scheduled Castes.

40. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The State Election Commission (SEC) is an independent constitutional authority responsible for conducting and supervising elections to local bodies within a state.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Members of the State Election Commission (SEC) are **appointed by the Governor** of the respective state (not the President).

Statement 2 is incorrect. The **State Election Commission (SEC) is not subordinate to the Election Commission of India (ECI). It operates independently at the state level** and is responsible for conducting and supervising elections to local bodies within the state, such as panchayats and municipal corporations. While the ECI oversees parliamentary and state assembly elections, the SEC has authority over local government elections in the state.

Statement 3 is incorrect. State election commissions conduct elections for local government bodies within their respective states. These elections typically include municipal corporations, municipal councils, panchayats, and other local governing bodies The Election Commission of India (ECI) conducts state legislative assembly elections.

41. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The State Finance Commission (SFC) is a constitutional body. 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992 provided for the establishment of the SFC by the Governor.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The State Finance Commission is **appointed by the Governor** of the State, not the President of India. Article 243I of the Constitution mandated the State Governor to constitute a Finance Commission every five years.

Statement 2 is correct. The State Finance Commission **recommends ways to improve the financial position of the Panchayati Raj Institutions**. It also suggests measures for the overall improvement of Panchayat's finances.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The recommendations of the State Finance Commission **are not binding on the state government.** While they carry significant weight, the state government has some discretion in implementing the recommendations, although they are expected to provide reasons for any deviation in a explanatory memorandum, before the State Legislature.

42. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The formation of District Planning Committees (DPCs) is mandated by the Article 243ZD of the 74th Amendment of the Constitution. District Planning Committees serve as a link between Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies.

Statement 1 is correct: District Planning Committees (DPCs) consolidate the plans prepared by panchayats and municipalities in the district, and **to prepare a draft development plan for the district as a whole**. Every District Planning Committee in **preparing the draft development plan, deals with matters of common interest between the Panchayats and the Municipalities including spatial planning, sharing of water and other physical and natural resources,** the integrated development of infrastructure and environmental conservation. It also discusses the extent and type of available resources whether financial or otherwise.

Statement 2 is correct: It is **the State legislature that may make provisions with respect to the composition of district planning committees**. Furthermore, state legislature can also make provisions with respect to the manner of election of members of such committees, the functions of such committees in relation to district planning and the manner of the election of the chairpersons of such committees.

Statement 3 is *incorrect*: The **four-fifths of the members of a district planning committee are elected by the elected members of the District Panchayat and municipalities** in the district from amongst themselves. **(Through this we can say that, the governor does not nominate 50% of the members to DPC).** The representation of these members in the committee is in proportion to the ratio between the rural and urban populations in the district.

43. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Gram Sabha introduced by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992, to strengthen grassroot democracy.

Statement 1 is correct. The Gram Sabha, as established by the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, reflects the principles of decentralization of power. The Act made it **mandatory to establish a Gram Sabha in every village or Panchayat area**.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Gram Sabha **comprises all adult members of the village who are eligible to vote** in the local elections. This inclusive composition ensures that all sections of the community have the opportunity to participate.

Statement 3 is correct. The specific **roles and functions of the Gram Sabha are primarily determined by State legislation**. Each State in India has the flexibility to define the responsibilities and powers of the Gram Sabha within the broader framework of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment.

44. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Even after conferring the constitutional status and protection through the 73rd Amendment Act (1992), the performance of the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) has not been satisfactory and not up to the expected level.

Statement 1 is correct. In some States, the Gram Panchayats have been placed in a position of subordination. Hence, the Gram Panchayat Sarpanches have to spend extraordinary amount of time visiting Block Offices for funds and/or technical approval. These interactions with the Block staff office distort the role of Sarpanches as elected representatives

Statement 2 is correct. The non-existence of definite procedures and powers of Gram Sabha for functioning of

local self-government make the system lack transparency, accountability and proper involvement of marginalized sections which are inadequately represented due to lack of any recognized procedure and law. Hence the Gram Sabha though can act as a string weapon for development of villages is undervalued and inappropriately represented.

Statement 3 is correct. An important power devolved to Gram Panchayats is the right to levy tax on property, business, markets, fairs and also for services provided like street lighting or public toilets, etc. Very few Panchayats use their fiscal power to levy and collect taxes. The argument pushed by Panchayat heads is that it is difficult to levy tax on your own constituency, especially when you live in the community.

Statement 4 is incorrect. A review of money received and own source funds shows the overwhelming dependence of Panchayats on government funding. So, there is no lack of funding from state governments. When Panchayats do not raise resources and instead receive funds from outside, people are less likely to request a social audit, which impacts effective governance.

45. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect. The Secretary of the Gram Sabha is not elected by the Gram Sabha members.

Option b is incorrect. The Secretary of the Gram Sabha is not appointed by the Village Head.

Option c is correct. The Gram Panchayat has a secretary who is also the Secretary of Gram Sabha. This individual is not elected, but rather **appointed by the State Government**. The Secretary is in charge of calling Gram Sabha and Gram Panchayat meetings and keeping a record of the proceedings.

Option d is incorrect. The Secretary of the Gram Sabha is not selected by the Zila Parishad.

46. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

The Town Area Committee is set up for the administration of a small town. Features of the committee are:

Statement 1 is incorrect - A town area committee is created by a separate act of a state legislature (Hence it is a statutory body). It is a semi-municipal authority and is entrusted with a limited number of civic functions like drainage, roads, street lighting, and conservancy.

Statement 2 is incorrect - The composition, functions and other matters related to the Town Area Committee are governed by the act. It may be wholly elected or wholly nominated by the state government or partly elected and partly nominated. It is not necessary to be entirely a nominated body.

47. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

There are three types of municipal personnel systems in India. The personnel working in the urban governments may belong to any one or all the three types. These are Separate Personnel System, United Personnel System, Integrated Personnel System.

Pair 1 is incorrectly matched: Under Separate Personnel System, each local body appoints, administers, and controls its own personnel. They are not transferable to other local bodies.

Pair 2 is correctly matched: Under United Personnel System, the state government appoints, administers, and controls the municipal personnel. They are transferable between the local bodies in the state.

Pair 3 is incorrectly matched: Under the Integrated Personnel System, the personnel of the state government and those of the local bodies form part of the same service. They are transferable not only between the local bodies in the state but also between local bodies and departments of state government.

48. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Option 1 is correct: Property tax is the amount that is **paid by the landowner to the municipal corporation or the local government** for his/her area. The tax must be paid every year. Property, office buildings, and residential homes that are rented out to third parties are considered real estate assets. Property tax is charged by the government on all tangible real estate that an individual owns. These real estate assets could include residential homes, office buildings and premises rented out to third parties. **It also known as house tax.**

Option 2 is correct: The non-tax revenue for local government comes from municipal properties, fees and fines, royalty, profits and dividends, interest, user charges and miscellaneous receipts. **The user charges (i.e., payment for public utilities) include water charges, sanitation charges, sewerage charges and so on.**

Option 3 is correct: The urban **local bodies raise loans from** the state government as well as **financial institutions** to meet their capital expenditure. They can borrow from the financial institutions or other bodies only with the approval of the state government.

Option 4 is incorrect: Excise duty was a form of indirect tax that was subassumed into the Good and Services Tax (GST) framework. However, **some excise duty charges continue to be in force for alcohol and narcotics which are collected by state governments and not local government.**

49. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Panchayati Raj System is a process through which people participate in their own government. In rural areas, the **Gram Panchayat is the first tier or level of democratic government**.

Statement I is correct: In the Panchayati Raj System in India, the **Panchs are answerable to Gram Sabha.** The Gram Sabha is the **general body of voters in a village Panchayat** and is considered to be the ultimate decision-making authority.

Statement II is correct and explains statement I: The Panchs and the Gram Panchayat are answerable to the Gram Sabha because it is the **members of the Gram Sabha who elected them.**

50. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Gram Panchayats are a system of **local self-governance** in India, forming crucial aspect of third tier of government. They are responsible for the development and administration of rural areas. These Gram Panchayat bodies were accorded constitutional status by the **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.**

Option 1 is correct. Profession tax is one of the taxes that can be levied by **Gram Panchayats.** The state governments can empower Gram Panchayats to collect this tax from professionals, traders, and individuals engaged in specific occupations.

Option 2 is correct. Water tax is levied by Gram Panchayats for the supply and usage of water in rural areas. This tax is a significant revenue stream for Gram Panchayats, enabling them to manage water resources and infrastructure.

Option 3 is correct. Land tax, also called **property tax,** is often levied by **Gram Panchayats** on landowners and properties within their jurisdiction. It is one of the significant sources of revenue for Panchayats.

Option 4 is correct. Entertainment tax is generally imposed by **state governments,** but **some states empower Panchayats to collect entertainment-related levies** (e.g., on fairs, local theaters, or cultural events). Thus, it is one of the possible sources of revenue for panchayat.

51. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Devolution of power involves the transfer of powers and responsibilities from state governments to local governments.

State legislature transferring "Elementary education" function to the local government directly relates to the concept of devolution of power.

Pattern of devolution vary from state to state but should be some core activity for the panchayat system in all states. They are as follows: - Elementary education, adult and non-formal education, primary health care, drinking water and sanitation, Women and child development.

Important Tips

- **Separation of power:** Legislation cannot discuss the conduct of judges of the Supreme Court and high courts is an example of **separation of power.** Article 121 and Article 211 of the Constitution provide provisions for the separation of legislation from the judiciary. It states that legislation cannot discuss the conduct of judges of the Supreme Court and high courts
- **Division of power:** The distribution of subjects between the Union List, State List, and Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. This is an **example of the division of power.** The Constitution of India specifies the distribution of legislative powers between the Parliament and the state legislatures.
- **Delegation of power:** Transferring of ancillary functions by the legislature to the executive wing of the state **represents delegation of power**. The legislature, which holds the power to make laws, delegates some of its powers to the executive body. Delegation is a vital tool towards ensuring better administration.

52. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Following independence, the vision of a decentralized democratic system took shape through a series of pivotal reforms and recommendations aimed at strengthening local governance structures. The evolution of PRIs was marked by numerous committees and commissions that addressed the challenges and proposed solutions, culminating in the landmark 73rd Amendment Act of 1992, which formally institutionalized the system of local self-governance in India.

Option a is incorrect: Balwant Rai Mehata Committee, 1957 recommended Panchayat samiti should be the executive body while zilla parishad should be advisory, supervisory and coordinating body. So, **it suggested Taluka as primary unit of decentralization than district.**

Option b is incorrect: Santhanam committee's terms of references were primarily related to studying financial matters of PRIs, about taxation powers and devolution of funds.

Option c is correct: The Ashok Mehta Committee, appointed in 1977, submitted its report in 1978 with 132 recommendations to strengthen the declining Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). It emphasized the **district as the primary unit of decentralization for planning and resource allocation, proposed a four-year term for PRIs,** and recommended the participation of political parties in their elections. The committee also advocated for mandatory **financial and functional devolution to enhance PRI autonomy and effectiveness.**

Option d is incorrect: P.K. Thungon Committee recommended Panchayati raj bodies should have a **fixed tenure of five years** (Not four years)

Important Tips

Major recommendations by other committees

- **Balwant Rai Mehta Committee (1957):** The committee's major recommendations included the establishment of a scheme for 'democratic decentralization,' the creation of a three-tier Panchayati Raj system, and the genuine transfer of power and responsibility to local bodies.

- **Santhanam Committee (1963):** The committee suggested that Panchayats should be empowered to levy taxes and proposed the establishment of a Panchayati Raj Finance Corporation to strengthen their financial autonomy.
- **P.K. Thungon Committee (1988):** The committee recommended PRI bodies should be constitutionally recognised and they should have fix tenure of five years. Zilla Parishad should be pivot of PRI system and it should act as development and planning agency in the district.

53. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Option a is correct: A Notified Area Committee is established by a notification in the state government gazette. It is meant for towns that are either fast-developing (due to industrialization) or do not yet meet the conditions to be declared municipalities. All its members, including the chairman, are nominated by the state government, making it an entirely nominated body.

Option b is incorrect: A Port Trust is established under an Act of Parliament for port management and civic amenities. It consists of both elected and nominated members, and its chairman is an appointed official.

Option c is incorrect: Municipal Corporations are urban local bodies created for the governance of large cities such as Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Hyderabad, and Bangalore. They are established by state legislatures in states and by Parliament in Union Territories.

A municipal corporation has three main authorities.

1. The Council is a legislative and deliberative body, composed of directly elected councillors and a few nominated members with expertise in municipal matters. The composition, including reservations for Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and women, is governed by the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act.
2. The mayor is elected for a one-year term in most states,
3. Standing Committees are formed to ensure the efficient functioning of the Council, these deal with specific sectors such as public works, education, health, taxation, and finance.

Option d is incorrect: A Cantonment Board is an urban local body established for municipal administration in cantonment areas, primarily to serve the civilian population residing within such zones. Each cantonment board comprises both elected and nominated members. Elected members have a tenure of five years, while nominated (ex-officio) members hold office as long as they are posted in that station. The station's military officer serves as the ex-officio president, and the vice-president is elected from among the elected members for a five-year term.

54. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

India's urban local governance system, comprising Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), ensures efficient management of cities and towns by providing essential services like sanitation, public health, and infrastructure. ULBs vary based on the size, population, and needs of urban areas, evolving through state legislation and constitutional mandates. Notified Area Committees are one of the eight types of ULBs in India.

Statement 1 is incorrect: A Notified Area Committee is not a statutory body. **It is established through a government gazette notification (not based on the law of a state legislature).** Its functioning is governed by the provisions of the State Municipal Act.

Statement 2 is correct: "Notified Area Committee" is a committee established by the state government to administer rapidly developing areas, often industrial towns. It is created by the notification in government gazette. **And all members of Notified Area Committee are nominated by state government.** It is neither a statutory body nor elected body.

55. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The District Planning Committee (DPC) is constituted under Article 243ZD of Indian constitution, introduced by the **74th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992.**

Statement 1 is correct: As per Article 243zd there shall be constituted in every State at the district level a District Planning Committee to consolidate the plans prepared by the Panchayats and the Municipalities in the district and to prepare a draft development plan for the district as a whole.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 243ZD (2) of Constitution provides that **legislature of state may by law make provision with respect to composition of DPC** and manner with which such committees shall be filled. Act has not specified minimum or maximum number in DPC.

Statement 3 is incorrect: As per Article 243ZD (2of the Indian constitution, **The chairperson is elected by the members of the committee (District Magistrate is not the ex-officio chairman,** and its composition and **manner of election are decided by the state legislature.**

56. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

74th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992 added a new Part IX-A to the Constitution, titled 'The Municipalities', comprising Articles 243-P to 243-ZG for establishment of Urban local bodies in India. While Part IX-A generally applies to all Indian states, certain areas are exempted from its automatic application due to their distinct administrative or socio-cultural characteristics.

Statement 1 is correct: As per Article 243ZC of the Indian Constitution, **Part IX-A does not automatically apply to Scheduled Areas.** However, Parliament may extend the provisions of this Part to these areas, through legislation. This extension can be subject to exceptions and modifications specified in the law.

Statement 2 is correct: As per **Article 243ZC** of the Indian Constitution, **Part IX-A does not automatically apply to Tribal Areas.** However, Parliament may extend the provisions of this Part to these areas, including tribal areas, through legislation. This extension can be subject to exceptions and modifications specified in the law.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Article 243ZB of the Indian Constitution **ensures that the provisions of Part IX-A, which relate to Municipalities, apply to Union Territories.** In this context, any reference to the **Governor** of a State is considered a reference to the Administrator of the Union Territory, as appointed under Article 239. Similarly, any reference to the Legislature or Legislative Assembly of a State is treated as a reference to the Legislative Assembly of the Union Territory, where one exists. This adapts the provisions to fit the governance structure of Union Territories.

Statement 4 is incorrect: A disturbed area under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) refers to a region where the government believes that the law and order situation has become grave and cannot be controlled by regular law enforcement agencies, thus requiring the intervention of the armed forces. **Part IXA generally applies to disturbed areas unless special provisions are made by the President for such areas, but there are no general exemptions.**

57. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 243F of the Indian Constitution outlines the disqualifications for being chosen as or for being a member of a Panchayat.

Option 1 is correct: According to **Article 243F(1)(a)** of the Indian Constitution, **if he is so disqualified by or under any law for the time being in force for the purposes of elections to the Legislature of the State concerned.**

Option 2 is incorrect: The Constitution states that a person is **not disqualified** for Panchayat membership if they have attained the age of **21 years**. The age limit for State Legislature (25 years) does not apply to Panchayats.

Option 3 is incorrect: There is **no provision under Article 243F or related laws that disqualifies a person based on their employment or income level**. Such a criterion is not relevant for Panchayat membership.

58. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **Eleventh Schedule of the Indian Constitution** lists subjects that are primarily related to local governance and development, to be managed by Panchayati Raj Institutions. The Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution of India lists **29 subjects** that are the responsibility of Panchayats. **These subjects include Rural electrification, Family welfare and Agriculture. Hence, Option 1, 2 and 3 are correct.**

Option 4 is incorrect: Cattle Pounds and the Prevention of cruelty to animals is not part of the Eleventh Schedule. It is a subject more relevant to urban governance and falls under the Twelfth Schedule, which deals with urban local bodies (entry 15).

Important Tips

Subjects listed in Eleventh schedule (Article 243G):

1. Agriculture, including agricultural extension.
2. Land improvement, implementation of land reforms, land consolidation and soil conservation.
3. Minor irrigation, water management and watershed development.
4. Animal husbandry, dairying and poultry.
5. Fisheries.
6. Social forestry and farm forestry.
7. Minor forest produce.
8. Small scale industries, including food processing industries.
9. Khadi, village and cottage industries.
10. Rural housing.
11. Drinking water.
12. Fuel and fodder.
13. Roads, culverts, bridges, ferries, waterways and other means of communication.
14. Rural electrification, including distribution of electricity.
15. Non-conventional energy sources.
16. Poverty alleviation programme.
17. Education, including primary and secondary schools.
18. Technical training and vocational education.
19. Adult and non-formal education.
20. Libraries.
21. Cultural activities
22. Markets and fairs.
23. Health and sanitation, including hospitals, primary health centres and dispensaries.
24. Family welfare.
25. Women and child development.
26. Social welfare, including welfare of the handicapped and mentally retarded.
27. Welfare of the weaker sections, and in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.
28. Public distribution system.
29. Maintenance of community assets.

59. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement I is correct: Article 243D of Indian Constitution provides for the reservation of seats for Scheduled castes and Scheduled tribes in every Panchayat. The reservation for Scheduled Castes (SCs) in Panchayats under this provision does not apply to Arunachal Pradesh.

Statement II is correct and explains Statement I: Arunachal Pradesh **does not have a Scheduled Caste (SC) population**

and is inhabited fully by indigenous tribal people. Hence, provision of reservation for SC in Panchayats does not extend to Arunachal Pradesh. No community in the state has been notified as SC. This is also true for Nagaland, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Lakshadweep.

60. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

As per Article 243F (2) of the Constitution of India- If any question arises as to whether a member of a Panchayat has become subject to any of the disqualifications mentioned in Article 243F (1) , **the question shall be referred for the decision of such authority and in such manner as the Legislature of a State may, by law, provide.**

61. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Local self-governance, albeit in different forms, had a considerably long history going back to the ancient period when the rural communities organised institutions to manage their own affairs. The **first Municipal Corporation in India was set up at Madras in 1687**, and in 1726 the Municipal Corporations were set up in Bombay and Calcutta.

The **correct chronological order is 2-Lord Mayo's Resolution1-Lord Ripon's Resolution3-Royal Commission on Decentralisation.**

Option 1: The famous Resolution by Lord Ripon, which is also called the Magna Carta of Local Self Government, was issued by Lord Ripon's Government on 18th May, 1882. Its main purpose was to provide the institutional backing of the local Indian elites to the colonial administration.

1. The resolution aimed to decentralize power from the central government to local bodies, allowing Indians to participate in managing local affairs.
2. The local bodies were to have a significant number of elected members, giving Indians a voice in local governance.
3. Focus on Local Issues: These bodies were responsible for managing local issues like education, health, sanitation, and infrastructure.

Option 2: Lord Mayo's Resolution of 1870 gave a fresh impetus to the growth of local government. It advocated decentralisation and made arrangements for strengthening the municipal institutions and involving more and more Indians in these bodies.

Option 3: Royal Commission on Decentralisation was appointed in 1907.

1. It recommended that the village should be regarded as the basic unit of local self-government institutions, and every village should have a panchayat. Municipalities should be constituted in urban areas.
2. In order to increase devolution of power and gradual democratisation of the local bodies, the Commission had recommended: (a) the chairman should be elected nonofficially, (b) majority of the members should be elected non-officially, (c) municipalities should be given more powers of taxation and control over their budgets, and (d) large municipalities should be endowed with greater power and required to appoint qualified health officers along with the executive officers.

62. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The principle of subsidiarity stipulates: 'What can be done best at a particular level should be done at that level and not at higher levels. **All that can be done optimally at the lowest level should be done at that level.'**

The principle of subsidiarity means that decisions should be taken at the lowest level of governance possible. It should involve the people who will be affected by the decision. It emphasizes empowering lower levels of an organization or government to make decisions that affect their work directly. This helps in effectively addressing the issue, empowering local communities and individuals while ensuring broader goals are met. The **73rd and 74th amendment of the Indian Constitution,** establishing the institutions of local self-government in the rural and urban areas, were brought keeping this principle in mind.

63. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: District Planning committees **(DPCs) are constitutional bodies, not statutory bodies. The Constitution of India (Article 243ZD) mandates the formation of DPCs in every district.** While states might enact their own laws to define the specific composition, functions, and powers of the DPC, the core concept originates from the Constitution itself.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 243ZD (2) The Legislature of a State may, by law, make provision with respect to-

(a) the composition of the District Planning Committees;

(b) the manner in which the seats in such Committees shall be filled:

Provided that not less than **four-fifths of the total number of members of such Committee shall be elected by,** and from amongst, the elected members of the Panchayat at the district level and of the Municipalities in the district in proportion to the ratio between the population of the rural areas and of the urban areas in the district. Thus, not half the members of the committee are nominated by the Governor.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Article 243ZD (4) The Chairperson of every District Planning Committee shall forward the development plan, as recommended by such Committee, **to the Government of the State (not the legislature).**

64. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Gram Sabha** serves as the **foundation of the Panchayati Raj system in India**, designed to **promote direct democracy**

at the village level. It acts as a **platform for discussion and decision-making on public issues** and **oversees the work of the village panchayat** and the execution of development projects.

Statement 1 is incorrect: According to the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, there is no such requirement that the Gram Sabha must meet at least twice each year, however state legislatures have provided for such provisions to ensure ongoing participation of people in governance by the **village community**, helping to enhance transparency and local accountability. As per **article 243A a Gram Sabha may exercise such powers and perform such functions at the village level as the Legislature of a State may, by law, provide.**

Statement 2 is correct: The **functions of the Gram Sabha can vary significantly** as they are **prescribed by the state legislature** under which the Gram Sabha operates, as enabled by Article 243A and detailed through various state laws under the framework of the Schedule XI (Eleventh Schedule) of the Constitution. This **allows for flexibility** and **local customization in the governance model**, tailoring legislative functions to the specific needs and conditions of the state's rural areas.

65. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Ward Committees are **key components** of **decentralized governance in urban areas.** They **provide a platform for members**, typically comprising **elected ward representatives and sometimes co-opted members**, to discuss and influence local policy and decision-making affecting their wards.

Statement 1 is correct: According to the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act, it is **mandatory for every municipality to constitute a Ward Committee consisting of one or more wards within the territorial area of a municipality having a population of three lakhs or more, as stipulated in Article 243S of the Indian Constitution.** The intention behind this provision is to ensure closer representation and more participatory local governance.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As per the 74th constitutional amendment act, the method of filling the seats of ward committee is decided by the state legislature.

According to the Article 243S (2) The Legislature of a State may, by law, make provisions with respect to--

(a) the composition and the territorial area of a Wards Committee;

(b) the manner in which the seats on the Wards Committee shall be filled.

Thus, the 74th constitutional amendment act does not provide for the seats in a ward committee to be filled by direct elections.

66. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

A cantonment board is established for municipal administration for civilian population in the cantonment area. Established under the provisions of the **Cantonments Act of 2006,** a legislation enacted by the Central government, these boards play a crucial role in ensuring the efficient management and development of cantonment areas, balancing the needs of civilian residents with military requirements.

Statement 1 is correct: A Cantonment Board comprises **both elected and nominated members**, with **elected members** serving a term of **five years** and nominated members, also known as ex-officio members, holding office as long as they remain in their station positions. The **military officer commanding** the station serves as **the ex-officio president of the board** and chairs its meetings. Additionally, the vice-president of the board is elected by the elected members from their ranks and serves a five-year term.

Statement 2 is correct: The Chief Executive Officer of a Cantonment Board is appointed by the Central Government or by such person as the Central Government may authorise. The Executive Officer is responsible for the day-to-day administration and management of the Cantonment area.

Statement 3 is incorrect: A Cantonment Board works under the **administrative control of the Ministry of Defence (MoD)** (not the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs) of the Central government. Directorate General of Defence Estates (DGCE) of the Ministry of Defence directly

67. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Indian Constitution establishes the State Election Commission for conducting municipal and panchayat elections in states. According to Article 243K(1), a State Election Commission consisting of a State Election Commissioner appointed by the Governor shall be in charge of supervising, directing, and controlling the preparation of electoral rolls for, and conduct of, all Panchayat elections (Municipalities under Article 243ZA).

Statement-I is correct. The State Election Commissioner (SEC) is indeed removed by the President rather than the Governor. This is to ensure the independence of the SEC from the state government's influence.

Statement-II is correct and it is the correct explanation of Statement-I. The Constitution does provide protections for the State Election Commissioner (under Article 243-K), ensuring their independence and safeguarding them from arbitrary removal. The removal process for the SEC is similar to that of a Judge of a High Court, which means it requires a thorough and justifiable process. Hence, the reason why the President removes the SEC is because the Constitution mandates a removal process similar to that of a Judge of a High Court, which typically involves the President's authority.

Important Tips

The process for the removal of a High Court judge/SEC involves impeachment proceedings initiated by either house of Parliament. The process begins with a motion for impeachment supported by at least 100 members of the Lok Sabha or 50 members of the Rajya Sabha. This motion is then referred to a committee for investigation, which submits its findings to the house that initiated the motion. If the motion is supported by a two-thirds majority in the initiating house and by a majority in the other house, the judge/SEC is removed from office.

68. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The 74th Amendment Act of 1992 added a new Part IX-A to India's Constitution. The provisions in this section, which is titled "The Municipalities," span Articles 243-P through 243-ZG. A new **12th Schedule** was added to the Constitution by the act. There are eighteen municipal functional items in this schedule. The act granted the municipalities constitutional status.

Statement I is incorrect. In India, the Mayor is generally indirectly elected. Each city has a different system for choosing mayors and different terms for them. **74th Constitutional Amendment Act doesnot provide for Mayors to be directly elected by the people. It leaves it to the states to decide on method of election of Mayors.**

Eg. Mumbai, Maharashtra, has indirect elections with a one-year tenure, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, has a directly elected mayor with a five-year term, and Bengaluru, Karnataka, has an indirect election process with a one-year tenure. The Acts governing Municipalities in the Indian States of Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, and Odisha had provisions pertaining to the direct election of mayors by citizens of the city.

Statement II is correct. According to Article 243R.

Composition of Municipalities

(1) Save as provided in clause (2), all the seats in a Municipality shall be filled by persons chosen by direct election from the territorial constituencies in the Municipal area and for this purpose each Municipal area shall be divided into territorial constituencies to be known as wards.

(2) The Legislature of a State may, by law, provide--

(a) for the representation in a Municipality of--

(i) persons having special knowledge or experience in Municipal administration;

(ii) the members of the House of the People and the members of the Legislative Assembly of the State representing constituencies which comprise wholly or partly the Municipal area;

(iii) the members of the Council of States and the members of the Legislative Council of the State registered electors within tile Municipal area;

(iv) the Chairpersons of the Committees constituted under clause (5) of article 243S:

69. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 243D (6) of the Constitution of India empowers the Legislature of a state to reserve seats for backward classes in panchayats at any level.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The **73rd Constitutional Amendment Act provides** for the **reservation of not less than one-third of the total number of seats for women** including the number of seats reserved for women belonging the SCs and STs. Further, not less than one-third of the total number of offices of chairpersons in the panchayats at each level shall be reserved for women. The **106th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2023 reserves one-third of all seats for women in Lok Sabha, State legislative assemblies, and the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi**, including those reserved for SCs and STs.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The **103rd** Constitutional Amendment Act of 2019 introduced reservation for Economically Weaker Sections **(EWS)** in **educational institutions and government jobs.** It **did not reserved seats in Panchayat elections,** nor it allowed state legislature to do so.

70. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 243-I of the Constitution of India lays down that the Governor of state shall, as soon as may be within one year from the commencement of the Constitution (seventy third amendment) Act, 1992, and thereafter at the expiration of every fifth year, constitute a Finance Commission to review the financial position of the Panchayats and make recommendations to the Governor. Similarly, Article 243-Y of the Constitution has a provision for the municipalities.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 243-I of the Constitution of India authorises **the Governor of state to constitute a Finance Commission every five years** to review the financial position of the Panchayats and make recommendations to the Governor.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 243I authorizes **the state legislature may provide for the composition n of the commission, the required qualifications of its members and the manner of their selection**.

Statement 3 is incorrect: As per Article 243I in Constitution of India, State Finance Commission **recommends the grants-in-aid to the Panchayats from the Consolidated Fund of the State (not from the consolidated fund of India).** Finance Commission (formulated under Article 280) recommends the grants to local bodies from the Consolidated fund of India.

71. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **provisions of Part IX of the constitution** relating to the Panchayats **are not applicable to the Fifth Schedule areas.** However, the Parliament may extend these provisions to such areas, subject to such exceptions and modifications as it may

specify. Under this provision, the Parliament has enacted the **"Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act", 1996, popularly known as the PESA Act or the Extension Act.**

Statement 1 is correct: On the recommendation of **Bhuria Committee recommendations in 1995**, Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act 1996 came into existence for ensuring tribal self-rule for people living in scheduled areas of India.

Statement 2 is correct: The objectives of the PESA Act are as follows

1. To extend the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution relating to the panchayats to the scheduled areas with certain modifications
2. To provide **self-rule for the bulk of the tribal population**
3. To have village governance with participatory democracy and to make the gram sabha a nucleus of all activities
4. To evolve a suitable administrative framework consistent with traditional practices
5. To **safeguard and to preserve the traditions and customs of tribal communities**

Statement 3 is incorrect: Since the laws do not automatically cover the scheduled areas, the PESA Act was in acted on 24 December 1996 to enable Tribal Self Rule in these areas. **The Act extended the provisions of Panchayats to the tribal areas of ten states that have Fifth Schedule Areas. Most of the North eastern states under Sixth Schedule Areas (where autonomous councils exist) are not covered by PESA, as these states have their own Autonomous councils for governance.** The nine states with Fifth Schedule areas are: Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Telangana have Fifth Schedule Areas.

72. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act, 1996** provides certain powers to the Gram Sabha, which is the traditional decision-making body of the village community in scheduled areas.

Statement 1, 3 and 4 are correct: The powers given to the Gram Sabha under PESA Act, 1996 are:

1) **Right to plan and manage minor water bodies** in the Scheduled Areas.
2) **Right to be consulted before making acquisition of land** in the Scheduled Areas for development projects and before re-settling or rehabilitating persons affected by such projects in the Scheduled Areas.
3) Power to **enforce prohibition or to regulate or restrict the sale and consumption** of any intoxicant.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Collection taxes from services of primary education, healthcare and water supply in tribal areas **is not the power given to Gram Sabha** under PESA Act, 1996.

Important Tips

Other powers of Gram Sabha under PESA Act:

1) Identification or selection of persons as beneficiaries under the poverty alleviation and other programmes.
2) Safeguard and preserve the traditions and customs of the people, their cultural identity, community resources and the customary mode of dispute resolution.
3) Approve plans, programmes and projects for social and economic development before such plans, programmes and projects are taken up for implementation by the Panchayat at the village level.
4) Power to manage village markets.
5) Power to exercise control over institutions and functionaries in all social sectors.
6) Power to control over local plans and resources for such plans including tribal subplans.

73. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

One of the compulsory provisions of the 74th Amendment Act of 1992 states that every metropolitan area shall have a metropolitan planning committee to prepare a draft development plan.

Statement 1 is correct: The 74th Amendment Act, 1992 lays down that **two-thirds of the members of a metropolitan planning committee should be elected by the elected members of the municipalities and chairpersons of the panchayats in the metropolitan area from amongst themselves.** The representation of members in the committee should be in proportion to the ratio between the population of the municipalities and the panchayats in that metropolitan area.

Statement 2 is incorrect and statement 3 is correct:

The 74th Amendment Act 1992 provides that the **state legislature** may make provisions with respect to the following aspects of Metropolitan Planning Committee:

1. The composition of such committees;
2. **The manner of election of members of such committees;**
3. The representation in such committees of the Central government, state government and other organisations;
4. **The functions of such committees in relation to planning and coordination for the metropolitan area;**
5. The manner of election of chairpersons of such committees.

74. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The system of urban government was constitutionalised through the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992. 'Urban Local Government' in India signifies the governance of an urban area by the people through their elected representatives. The jurisdiction of an urban local government is limited to a specific urban area which is demarcated for this purpose by the state government.There

are eight types of urban local bodies are created in India for the administration of urban areas

1) Municipal Corporation
2) Municipality
3) Notified Area Committee
4) Town Area Committee
5) Cantonment Board
6) Township
7) Port Trust
8) Special Purpose Agency

Statement 1 is incorrect: Notified Area Committee is created either in a town which is fast developing or which may not fulfil the conditions for the creation of a municipality. **It is known as Notified Area Committee because it is created through a notification of the state government published in the official gazette. It is not a statutory body** and all its members and chairman are nominated by the government. It performs similar functions as performed by a municipality.

Statement 2 is correct: Town Area Committee is created by a separate Act of state government for the administration of small towns. It performs a limited number of functions like street lighting, drainage, etc. As provided in the Act, it may be wholly elected or totally nominated or partly elected or partly nominated body.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Large public enterprises (not state legislature) establish a township-style urban government to offer civic amenities to their employees residing in nearby housing colonies. A town administrator, along with engineers and other staff, manages the township's administration. Thus, the township form of urban government has no elected members. In fact, it is an extension of the bureaucratic structure of the enterprises.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Port trust is established by an Act of the Parliament to manage and protect ports and to provide civic amenities to the port area. It is headed by an official appointed by the central government. It has both elected and nominated members.

75. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: In India, the elections for Panchayats are carried out by the State Election Commissions (SECs) of the respective states. The State Election Commission is tasked with supervising and managing the entire electoral procedure for Panchayat elections within the state, as mandated by Article 243K of the constitution.

Statement 2 is correct: The Indian Constitution does not explicitly assign the responsibility for delimiting panchayat constituencies (the lowest level of rural local government) to a specific authority rather it assigned the **State Legislatures to enact laws concerning all aspects of Panchayat elections.** This encompasses the conduct of elections, the eligibility criteria and disqualifications for candidates, **the delimitation of constituencies, and various other associated matters.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: The 73rd Amendment Act of 1992 prohibits judicial intervention in panchayat electoral affairs. It lays down that no election to any panchayat is to be questioned except by an election petition presented to such authority and in such manner as provided by the state legislature.

76. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas) scheme is a collaborative effort of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, State Panchayati Raj Departments, State Revenue Departments and Survey of India.

Statement 1 and 3 are correct: The scheme seeks to achieve the following objectives: -

1) To bring financial stability to the citizens in rural India by **enabling them to use their property as a financial asset for taking loans and other financial benefits.**
2) **Creation of accurate land records for rural planning.**
3) Determination of property tax, which would accrue to the GPs directly in States where it is devolved or else, add to the State exchequer.
4) Creation of survey infrastructure and GIS maps that can be leveraged by any department for their use.
5) To support in preparation of better-quality Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) by making use of GIS maps. vi. To reduce property related disputes and legal cases

Statement 2 and 4 are incorrect: Reducing the dependency of Panchayati system on government funding and educating elected representatives of Panchayati Raj institution on governance matters **are not mentioned as an objective of the SVAMITVA Yojana.**

77. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: If a **municipality is dissolved earlier than the completion of its full term**, then it is mandatory according to 74th Constitutional Amendment Act to have a new municipality reconstituted. And a municipality thus made, **does not enjoy full term**, rather it exists only the remainder of the original term of the prematurely dissolved municipality. This is unlike state legislatures and Lok Sabha, where reconstituted House after the premature dissolution of the previous one, enjoys full term.

Statement 2 is correct: All municipalities are to have a fixed term of 5 years, subject to premature dissolution if required. But, where the remainder of the period (for which the dissolved municipality would have continued) is **less than six months**, it shall **not be necessary to hold any election** for constituting the new municipality for such period.

78. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In India, the Panchayati Raj is now a governance system in which Gram Panchayats are the basic units of local administration. Gram Panchayat (village level), Mandal Parishad or Block Samiti or Panchayat Samiti (block level), and Zila Parishad (district level) are the three levels of the system. The true strength of these institutions in terms of autonomy and efficiency is dependent on their financial position (including their capacity to generate their own resources).

Option 1 is correct: Under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), the **central government provides funds to Panchayats for specific programs in areas such as health, education, rural development, sanitation, and others.** The central government usually funds 60% to 90% of the cost of these programs, while the remaining cost is borne by the state government or the Panchayats themselves.

Option 2 is correct: Panchayats also **generate revenue by collecting taxes on land, water, and other services such as sanitation, street lighting, and others**. The revenue collected is used for the maintenance and development of the local infrastructure and services.

For example, Panchayats in rural areas collect property tax from landowners based on the size of the landholding.

Option 3 is incorrect: There is **no provision for the Central Bank to provide funds to the panchayats** in the form of a Gram Development Grant.

Option 4 is correct: The Finance Commission recommends the **grants to be given by the central government to Panchayats.** The grants are given to Panchayats for the development of infrastructure, service delivery, and capacity building.

For example, the 14th Finance Commission recommended that Panchayats should receive 2.87 lakh crore rupees in grants for the period from 2015-16 to 2019-20

79. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992 provides Constitutional status to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) and this act has added a new Part IX-A to the Constitution of India. Urban Local Government in India means the governance of an urban area by the people through their elected representatives.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 243X of the Constitution of India deals with power to impose taxes by Municipalities. Article 243X states that the **legislature of a State by law may authorise ULBs to levy, collect and retain certain taxes. Thus,** the constitution does not restrict state interference in Urban local bodies' power over tax matters.

Statement 2 is incorrect: It is **not the Department of Finance of the State, but the State Finance Commission (SFC) determines the principle** for the distribution of the net proceeds of the taxes, duties, tolls and fees leviable by the state, between the states and the municipalities.

80. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

All the members of Urban Local bodies shall be elected directly by the people of the municipal area. For this purpose, each **municipal area shall be divided into territorial constituencies to be known as wards.**

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 243S added by the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA) mandates State governments to **establish Ward committees within the territorial area of municipalities having a population of three lakhs or more (not in all urban areas)** to ensure grassroot democracy.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The 74th CAA provides that **State legislatures may by law provide for the manner in which the seats in ward committees shall be filled.** Thus, it varies from state to state as the Constitution gives discretion to states related to this matter. For instance, in Madhya Pradesh besides the elected Councillors, two persons residing within the territorial area of such Wards Committees are nominated to the ward committees.

Statement 3 is correct: The Chairperson of the **Wards Committee** shall be elected by the elected members of ward committees. **The Chairperson will have to vacate his/her office, if he/she ceases to be a member of the Wards Committee.**

81. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

Pair 1 is incorrect: Ashok Mehta committee was established in December **1977**. This committee **advocated a two-tier structure for Panchayat Raj**, involving **Zilla Parishads at the district level** and **Mandal Panchayats**, as an **alternative to the three-tier system** proposed by the **Balwant Rai committee.**

Pair 2 is incorrect: Balwant Rai Mehta Committee was established by the Government of India in **1957**. The committee submitted its report in November 1957 and recommended the establishment of the scheme of **'democratic decentralisation'.** It recommended establishment of a **three-tier Panchayati raj system: village-level grama panchayats, block-level panchayat samitis, and district-level Zila Parishads.** Through a system of indirect elections, these tiers should be organically linked.

Pair 3 is correct: Under the chairmanship **of L.M.Singhvi,** the government of India created a committee to develop a concept paper on **"Revitalization of Panchayati Raj Institutions for Democracy and Development" in 1986. It recommended constitutional status for the Panchayat System.** It also recommended establishment of the Nyaya Panchayats to mediate and resolve disputes and to give more emphasis to Gram Sabhas. It provided for a plan to gain financial autonomy for the local bodies.

82. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

There are compulsory (obligatory or mandatory) and voluntary (discretionary or optional) provisions (features) found in the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act (1992) or the Part IX of the Constitution.

Statement 1 and 2 are incorrect: Fixing tenure of five years for panchayats at all levels and holding fresh elections within six months in the event of supersession of any panchayat are **compulsory provisions of 73rd Amendment.** Furthermore, **direct elections to all seats in panchayats at the village, intermediate and district levels** and **indirect elections to the post of chairperson of panchayats at the intermediate and district levels**, are also the **compulsory** provisions of the 73rd Amendment.

Statement 3 are 4 are correct: Providing reservation of seats (both members and chairpersons) for backward classes in panchayats at any level fall under the **voluntary** provisions. **Granting financial powers to the panchayats,** that is, authorizing them to levy, collect and appropriate taxes, duties, tolls and fees **is a voluntary provision under the 73rd Amendment.**

83. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Central Finance Commission (CFC) is a **constitutional body** under **Article 280 of the Constitution**. State Finance Commission (SFC) is also a **constitutional body** that is established in every State of India under **Article 243-I of the Constitution.**

Statement 2 is correct: The **state legislature provides for the composition of the State Finance Commission**, the required qualifications of its members and the manner of their selection. **Constitution of India under Article 280 has provided for composition of Central Finance Commission.** The Finance Commission consists of a chairman and four other members to be appointed by the President. They hold office for such period as specified by the President in his order.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The recommendation of **both the Commissions are advisory in nature**. The President and governor places the recommendations of the commission along with the action taken report before the Parliament and state legislature respectively.

84. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. A state having a population **below 20 lakhs** may not constitute panchayats at the intermediate level. The Panchayati Raj act provides for a **three-tier system** of Panchayati raj in every state, that is, panchayats at the village, intermediate, and district levels. However, a state having a population not exceeding 20 lakhs may not constitute panchayats at the intermediate level.

Statement 2 is correct. The provision relating to the **reservation** of seats in panchayats (both members and chairpersons) for the **scheduled castes** is **not applicable** to the state of Arunachal Pradesh. This is because the state is inhabited fully by indigenous tribal people and there are no scheduled castes. This provision was added later by the **83rd Constitutional Amendment** Act of 2000.

85. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

In total, 8 types of urban local bodies are created in India for administration of urban areas, few of which are discussed below:

Pair 1 is correctly matched: A notified area committee is created for the administration of two types of areas–a fast developing town due to industrialisation, and a town which does not yet fulfil all the conditions necessary for the constitution of a municipality, but which otherwise is considered important by the state government. Since it is established by a notification in the government gazette, it is called as notified area committee. Its powers are almost equivalent to those of a municipality. But unlike the municipality, it is an entirely nominated body, that is, all the members of a notified area committee including the chairman are nominated by the state government. Thus, it is neither an elected body nor a statutory body

Pair 2 is incorrectly matched: A town area committee is set up for the administration of a small town. It is a semi municipal authority and is entrusted with a limited number of civic functions like drainage, roads, street lighting, and conservancy. It is created by a separate act of a state legislature. It may be wholly elected or wholly nominated by the state government or partly elected and partly nominated.
Pair 3 is incorrectly matched: Township is established by the large public enterprises to provide civic amenities to its staff and workers who live in the housing colonies built near the plant. It is an extension of the bureaucratic structure of the enterprises.

Pair 4 is correctly matched: The port trusts are established in the port areas like Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and so on for two purposes: (a) to manage and protect the ports; and (b) to provide civic amenities. A port trust is created by an **Act of Parliament.** It consists of both elected and nominated members. Its chairman is an official. Its civic functions are more or less similar to those of a municipality.

86. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

A cantonment board is established for municipal administration for civilian population in the cantonment area. It is set up under the Cantonments Act of 2006–a legislation enacted by the Central government.

Statement 1 is incorrect:

Cantonment Board works under the administrative control of the Defense Ministry of the Central government. Unlike the other types of urban local bodies (Ex. Town area Committee, Notified Area Committee), created and administered by the state government, a cantonment board is created and administered by the Central government.

Statement 2 is correct: A cantonment board consists of partly elected and partly nominated members. The elected members hold office for a term of five years while the nominated members (i.e., ex-officio members) continue so long as they hold the office in that station.

Statement 3 is correct: The executive officer of the cantonment board is appointed by the Central Government. He implements all the resolutions and decisions of the board and its committees. He belongs to the central cadre established for the purpose.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The military officer commanding the station is the ex-officio president of the board and presides over its meetings. The nominated members (i.e., ex-officio members) continue so long as they hold the office in that station. The vice-president of the board is elected by the elected members from amongst themselves for a term of five years.

Important Tips

The Category I cantonment board consists of the following members:

1) A military officer commanding the station
2) An executive engineer in the cantonment
3) A health officer in the cantonment
4) A first class magistrate nominated by the district magistrate
5) Three military officers nominated by the officer commanding the station
6) Eight members elected by the people of the cantonment area
7) Chief Executive Officer of the cantonment board

7.2. Union Territories/Special Areas

87. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Parliament has the power to legislate for the whole or any part of the territory of India, which includes not only the states but also the Union territories or any other area, for the time being included in the territory of India.

The plenary territorial jurisdiction of Parliament is, however, subject to some special provisions of the Constitution.

Statement 1 is correct: As regards some of the Union Territories, such as the Andaman and Lakshadweep group of Islands, President may make regulations. These **regulations have the same force as Acts of Parliament and such regulations may repeal or amend a law made by Parliament in relation to such Territory. Thus, parliamentary acts can be overridden by the regulations made by President in the UT of Andaman and Nicobar.**

Statement 2 is correct: The application of Acts of Parliament to any Scheduled Area may be rejected or modified by notifications made by the Governor [Para 5 of the 5th Schedule].

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Governor of Assam may, by public notification, direct that any other Act of Parliament shall not apply to an autonomous district or an autonomous region in the State of Assam. Hence, it is the Governor of Assam and not the President who has overriding power over the acts of parliament in the state of Assam.

88. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Fifth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the administration and control of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes in any state except the four states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram. The scheduled areas are treated differently from the other areas in the country because the area is inhabited by 'aboriginals' who are socially and economically rather backward, and special efforts need to be made to improve their condition. Fifth Schedule contains the various features of administration of these scheduled areas.

Statement 1 is incorrect: As per Fifth Schedule, the President is empowered to declare an area to be a scheduled area. He/she can also increase or decrease its area, alter its boundary lines, rescind such designation or make fresh orders for such redesignation on an area in consultation with the governor of the state concerned.

Statement 2 is correct: Fifth Schedule **empowers the governor of a state to direct that any act of Parliament or the state legislature does not apply to a scheduled area or apply with specified modifications and exceptions.** He/she can also make regulations for the peace and good government of a scheduled area after consulting the tribe's advisory council.

Statement 3 is correct: Tribes advisory council shall be established in **each state having scheduled areas** to advise on welfare and advancement of the scheduled tribes. **It is to consist of 20 members, three-fourths of whom are to be the representatives of the scheduled tribes in the state legislative assembly.**

89. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Schedule VI of Indian constitution provides for the establishment of autonomous districts in tribal areas of 4 states (Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram). Such districts are administered by Autonomous District Council established by Governor of the state with representation of 30 members. The governor can further divide the district into several autonomous regions and each autonomous region also has a separate regional council.

Option 1 is incorrect: Powers of the District Councils including laws on several matters such as

1. **the management of any forest located in tribal areas except reserved forest;**
2. the use of any canal or water-course for the purpose of agriculture;
3. the regulation of the practice of jhum or other forms of shifting cultivation;
4. the establishment of village or town committees or councils and their powers;
5. any other matter relating to village or town administration, including village or town police and public health and sanitation;
6. the appointment or succession of Chiefs or Headmen;
7. the inheritance of property;

Option 2 is correct: A District Council has the power to assess and collect land revenue in respect of all lands within the district except those which are in the areas under

the authority of Regional Councils within the district.

Option 3 is correct: A District Council with the previous approval of the Governor can make rules regulating (a) the constitution of village councils and courts and the powers to be exercised by them (b) the procedure to be followed by village councils or courts in the trial of suits and cases.

Option 4 is correct: The District Council of an autonomous district **can make regulations for the regulation and control of money-lending** or trading within the district by persons other than Scheduled Tribes resident in the district.

Option 5 is correct: A District Council has the power to collect the royalties from the minerals extracted within their administrative territory.

90. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Part XXI of the Constitution of India contains **Articles 371 to 371-J, which provides for special provisions for twelve states.** These provisions are **crucial as they respect the ethnic, cultural, and geographical differences** across Indian states.

Option 1 is correct:

1) **Article 371B of the Indian Constitution** provides **special provisions for the state of Assam.** It ensures safeguards for the state's tribals.
2) **Article 371B states that the President can create a committee of the Assam Legislative Assembly.** The **committee will consist of members elected from the state's tribal areas** and **other members specified by the President.**
3) The **President can also make modifications to the Assembly's rules of procedure** to ensure the committee's proper functioning.

Option 2 is correct: Article 371H of the Indian Constitution was added in **1986** and contains **special provisions for the state of Arunachal Pradesh.** The **provisions of Article 371H also protect the customary rights of tribal people** regarding the ownership and transfer of land and forest.

Options 3 and 4 are incorrect: Meghalaya and Tripura are **not related to part XXI of the constitution.** Though they are part of Sixth schedule.

The **Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution** provides for the **administration of tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram.** The **Sixth Schedule** was **passed by the Constituent Assembly in 1949** to provide limited autonomy to the tribal regions of North-East.

The **Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council was constituted in 1982.** A fresh election **under the Sixth Schedule was held in 1985.** The Sixth Schedule provides for the creation of Autonomous District Councils and Regional Councils with legislative, executive, judicial, and financial powers. It **does not deal with part XXI of constitution.**

Option 5 is correct: Article 371G deals with Special provisions for Mizoram to ensure that no act of Parliament relating to religious or social practices of the Mizos, civil and criminal law of the land, land ownership transfer, and customary law procedure will apply to Mizoram unless the state assembly decides to apply them.

Option 6 is correct: Article 371C of the Indian Constitution provides special provisions for the state of Manipur. The article was added in 1972 to ensure the continuation of the "Special provision for Hill Areas of Manipur"

Important Tips

1) Part XXI of the Indian Constitution, titled "Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions", includes special provisions for 12 states, which include Maharashtra, Gujarat, Nagaland, Assam, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Sikkim, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, and Goa.
2) The original constitution did not include any special provisions for these states. They were incorporated through subsequent amendments.

91. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Part XXI of the Constitution, which includes Articles 371 to 371(J), specifies special provisions for certain states: Maharashtra, Gujarat, Nagaland, Assam, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Sikkim, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, and Karnataka. The goal is to meet the aspirations of people in the state's backward regions, protect tribal populations' cultural and economic interests, and address law and order concerns.

Statement 1 incorrect. The Constitution of India was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on November 26, 1949, and came into effect on January 26, 1950. While Nagaland was formed on November 30, 1963, and formally integrated as India's 16th state on December 1, 1963. Article 371A was not a part of the Constitution of India 1950. It was inserted by the Constitution (Thirteenth Amendment) Act, 1962, along with the formation of the new state of Nagaland.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Article 371(A) provides special provisions for Nagaland. According to it **-no Act of Parliament in respect of ownership and transfer of land and its resources, shall apply to the State of Nagaland unless the Legislative Assembly of Nagaland (not governor) by a resolution so decides;**

These exemptions encompass religious or social practices, Naga customary law, civil and criminal justice administration based on Naga customary law, and ownership and transfer of land and resources.

Important Tips

The Governor of Nagaland bears a special responsibility for maintaining **state law and order, particularly addressing internal disturbances by hostile Nagas.** In fulfilling this duty, the Governor, in consultation with the Council of Ministers, exercises individual judgment, with his decision being final until directed otherwise by the President. Furthermore, the Governor ensures that funds allocated by the Central Government for a specific purpose are exclusively included in the demand for a grant related to that purpose in the State Legislative Assembly.

92. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Constitution includes special provisions for scheduled castes (SCs), scheduled tribes (STs), backward classes (BCs), and Anglo-Indians to achieve the Preamble's goals of equality and justice. Part XVI of the Constitution, specifically Articles 330-342A, contains these special provisions.

Statement I is incorrect. The list of Scheduled Tribes (STs) is not consistent across all states in India. The Constitution does not specify the castes or tribes to be recognized as Scheduled Tribes (STs) in each state and union territory. The list of Scheduled Tribes varies from state to state and union territory to union territory. **According to Article 342(1) which mandates to specify the tribes or tribal communities or part of or groups within tribes or tribal communities as Scheduled Tribe in relation to that State or Union Territory as the case may be. Thus the list of Scheduled Tribes is State/UT specific and a community declared as a Scheduled Tribe in a State need not be so in another State.**

Statement II is correct. The Constitution empowers the President to specify which castes or tribes in each state and union territory are to be treated as Scheduled Tribes (STs). The President issues notifications for this purpose after consulting the Governor of the concerned state. However, any inclusion or exclusion of any caste or tribe from the Presidential notification can only be done by the Parliament through legislation, not by a subsequent Presidential notification. Presidents have indeed issued several orders specifying the Scheduled Tribes in different states and union territories, which have also been amended by the Parliament as necessary.

93. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Parliament can make laws for the whole or any part of the territory of India. However, the Constitution places certain restrictions on the plenary territorial jurisdiction of the Parliament. In other words, the laws of Parliament are not applicable in the following areas:

Statement 1 is correct. The Governor is empowered to direct that an **act of Parliament does not apply to a scheduled area** in the state or apply with specified modifications and exceptions.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Governor of Assam may direct by a Public Notification that an **act of Parliament** does **not apply to a tribal area** (autonomous district) in the state or apply with specified modifications and exceptions. The **President** enjoys the same power with respect to **tribal areas (autonomous districts) in Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram with respect to the Acts of Parliament.**

Important Tips

The President can make regulations for the peace, progress and good government of the following Union Territories– the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli & Daman and Diu and Ladakh. A regulation so made has the same force and effect as an act of Parliament. It may also repeal or amend any act of Parliament in relation to these union territories.

94. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 244 (2) provides that provisions of Sixth schedule area should be applicable in **tribal areas in states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.** The tribal areas in these four states are to be administered as **Autonomous Districts.** If there are different Scheduled Tribes in an autonomous district, the Governor can divide the district inhabited by them into **Autonomous Regions.**

In the case of Assam, certain **acts of Parliament (and state legislature of Assam)** shall not apply to autonomous districts or autonomous regions or should apply with **certain modifications as Governor of Assam may direct** by public notification.

In case of Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram states, authority for such directions lies with the **President for acts of Parliament** and **Governor of that state in respect of acts of State Legislature.**

95. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Fifth Schedule of the Indian Constitution ensures the effective administration and protection of **Scheduled Areas** for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes (STs).

Statement 1 is correct: The Fifth Schedule of the Constitution empowers the Governor of a state to adapt laws made by Parliament or State Legislatures to the specific requirements of Scheduled Areas. Additionally, the **Governor** can make special regulations to:

- Prohibit or restrict land transfers between tribals and non-tribals.
- Regulate the allotment of land to members of Scheduled Tribes.
- Control money-lending activities to prevent exploitation of tribal communities.

Statement 2 is correct: According to the Fifth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, **the Union government has the power**

to issue directions to states regarding the administration of Scheduled Areas. The Governor must submit an annual report or as directed by the President, ensuring oversight and effective governance for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes.

96. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Articles 371 to 371-J in Part XXI of the constitution contain special provisions for twelve states viz., Maharashtra, Gujarat, Nagaland, Assam, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Sikkim, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa and Karnataka.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 371-C makes the special provisions for Manipur to meet the aspirations of the people of backward regions of the states. **Under article 371-C the President is authorized to provide for the creation of a committee of the Manipur Legislative Assembly consisting of the members elected from the Hill Areas of the state.** The President can direct that the Governor shall have special responsibility to secure the proper functioning of that committee.

Statement 2 is correct: Under article 371-C the Governor has responsibility to submit an annual report to the President regarding the administration of the Hill Areas of Manipur. The Central Government can give directions to the State Government as to the administration of the Hill Areas.

97. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Scheduled Areas under the **Fifth Schedule** of the Indian Constitution are designated for special governance to protect the rights and culture of tribal communities. These areas receive additional administrative attention and developmental support from both the Centre and the states. The notification of Scheduled Areas is made by the **President of India**, based on the **recommendation of the Governor of the concerned state**.

1. **Andhra Pradesh** has notified Scheduled Areas in several tribal-dominated districts such as Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, and Srikakulam.
2. **Maharashtra** has Scheduled Areas notified in tribal regions including districts like Nandurbar, Gadchiroli, and parts of Nashik and Thane.
3. **Rajasthan** includes districts such as Banswara, Dungarpur, and Udaipur within its notified Scheduled Areas, where tribal populations are concentrated.
4. **Himachal Pradesh** has notified Scheduled Areas in certain remote and tribal regions, notably **Lahaul and Spiti**, **Pangi**, and **Bharmour** in **Chamba** district.
5. **Tamil Nadu**, although home to several tribal communities, does **not** have any area notified as a Scheduled Area under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution.

98. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 371-A of the Indian Constitution provides special provisions for Nagaland. **There is no requirement for the Governor of Nagaland to report on the administration of Nagaland's Hill Areas under Article 371-A. This particular provision applies to Manipur, not Nagaland.** Article 371-C of the Indian Constitution outlines special provisions for Manipur and obliges the Governor to submit an annual report to the President regarding the administration of Manipur's Hill Areas.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The **Nagaland State Legislative Assembly (and not the Governor)** holds the power to determine the applicability of Acts of Parliament concerning specific areas within Nagaland. These areas encompass **religious and social practices, Naga customary law, civil and criminal justice following Naga customary law, and land and resource ownership and transfer.** Only upon the Assembly's decision will such Acts apply in these domains.

Statement 3 is correct: A regional council with 35 members is mandated for the Tuensang district of the state. The Governor is responsible for establishing rules regarding the council's composition, member selection, qualifications, terms, salaries, and allowances. Additionally, these rules cover the council's operational procedures, appointment of officers and staff, and other factors essential for the council's constitution and effective operation.

99. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

States like **Assam, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, and Mizoram** have special powers granted by specific Constitutional provisions (under Article 371 to 371-J of the Indian Constitution) because of their unique social and historical conditions.

Option 1 is correct- Indigenous people have a **strong connection to their land** due to **generations of living on and caring for it.** However, they often face challenges from **outsiders who take their land.** In India, under Article 371, some states have special powers to protect indigenous land rights. They can make laws to **stop the sale of indigenous land to non-indigenous people** and create special land systems that recognize **indigenous customs.** Indians from outside this state, who are not permanent residents, are **not permitted to purchase land or houses** in the said states.

Option 2 is correct- Indigenous communities have **rich cultural and religious traditions** that have developed over centuries, closely tied to their connection with the land and nature. Some Indian states have been granted **unique powers to protect these cultures and religions.** They can make laws to safeguard **sacred indigenous sites and cultural practices** while also supporting **indigenous education and cultural initiatives.**

Option 3 is correct- Historically, indigenous communities have faced challenges in accessing government services, mainly because of **discrimination, limited educational and training opportunities, and cultural barriers.** However, in certain Indian states, special powers are granted to

provide indigenous people with **preferential employment opportunities** in **government services.** This initiative aims to rectify the historical underrepresentation of indigenous individuals in government positions, ensuring that they have a say in decisions that impact their lives.

Option 4 is correct- Special provisions under Article 371 allow some states to have their **own laws and regulations on certain matters**, even **if they differ from central laws.** For example, **Article 371A grants special powers to Nagaland,** including the power to make laws on its own customs and traditions. This means that central laws on these matters may not be applicable in Nagaland. Another example is **Article 371H, which grants special powers to Arunachal Pradesh.** Under this article, the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh **has the power to approve or disapprove of any central law that is applied to the state.**

100. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 244 in Part X of the Constitution envisages a special system of administration for certain areas designated as scheduled areas and tribal areas.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The President of India (not Governor of the State) declares an area as scheduled area in a state under the fifth schedule for any states except in four states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram which are covered under the Sixth schedule.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Any change in provisions mentioned in the fifth schedule can be amended by Parliament by simple majority and falls outside scope of Article 368.

101. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Governor can exempt specific acts of Parliament or State legislature from applying to scheduled areas and he/she can set **regulations for good governance** in these areas after consulting the **Tribal Advisory Council (TAC).** These regulations can repeal or amend any act of Parliament or the State legislature, which is applicable to a scheduled area. But all such regulations require the assent of the President. Therefore, **only with the President's assent Governor can modify as well as revoke both Central and State laws.**

Option b, c and d are incorrect: The **President's assent is mandatory** for the Governor to **modify or revoke any laws** applicable to Scheduled areas. Once the President's approval is granted, the Governor has the authority to amend or revoke both Central and State laws by issuing the regulations.

102. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

Articles 371 to 371-J in Part XXI of the Constitution provide special provisions for twelve Indian states, including Sikkim. These provisions were not part of the original Constitution but were introduced through various amendments. These amendments were made to address the reorganization of states, to grant statehood to certain Union Territories and also to meet aspirations, protect cultural and economic interests of the people in states.

Statement 1 is correct: The 36th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1975 granted Sikkim full statehood within the Indian Union and **introduced Article 371-F, which contains the special provisions for the state.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Under the special provisions, **Sikkim** has been allocated **one seat (not two seats) in the Lok Sabha,** forming a single Parliamentary constituency.

103. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution provides for the administration of tribal areas in **Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.** The **Governor** of the concerned State **establishes a 'District council'** in these States. Each of these autonomous districts is governed by a district council made up of 30 members.

Statement 1 is correct: It is true that the **District Councils in Tribal areas,** under the Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution, can enact **laws related to property inheritance, marriage, and divorce.** The councils can also make laws on matters like land, forests, canal water, shifting cultivation, village administration etc. But all such laws require the assent of the Governor.

Statement 2 is correct: The District Councils (and regional councils) within their territorial jurisdictions can constitute **village councils or courts for trial of suits and cases between the tribes.** Hence the statement is correct.

Statement 3 is correct: The District Councils/Regional councils can create **rules and regulations for the control of money lending and trade involving non-tribal individuals** in the areas they govern. However, such laws require the assent of the Governor.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The **district/regional councils are empowered to assess and collect land revenue** and to impose certain specified taxes. They can also establish, construct or manage primary schools, dispensaries, markets, ferries, fisheries, roads and so on in the district.

104. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Inner Line Permit (ILP) is an official travel document issued by the Government of India to allow inward travel of an Indian citizen (not Foreigners) into a protected area for a limited period.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The system is in force today in three Northeastern states — Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram (not Assam and Manipur).

105. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. The President may make regulations for the peace, progress and good government of the Union territory of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands; Lakshadweep; Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu; Pondicherry.

Any regulation so made may repeal or amend any Act made by Parliament or any other law which is for the time being applicable to the Union territory and, when promulgated by the President, shall have the same force and effect as an Act of Parliament which applies to that territory.

Statement 2 is correct. As per the Laccadive Minicoy Islands (Restrictions on Entry and Residence) Rule, 1967, no person who is not a native of the island shall enter or reside in or attempt to enter or reside in the islands except under and in accordance with a permit issued by the competent authority.

106. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 244 (Part X) of the Indian Constitution provides for a special system of administration for certain areas, which are designated as 'Scheduled areas' and 'Tribal areas'. These are dealt with under the Fifth and Sixth Schedules, respectively.

The Sixth Schedule deals with the administration of tribal areas in four Northeastern states- Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram. Hence, option c is the correct answer.

Important Tips

About **Sixth Schedule of** the Constitution of India:

1) The rationale behind special treatment to Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram is that the tribes in these States maintain their distinct culture and identity. These tribes have been less assimilated with the majority culture
2) These tribal areas have been constituted as autonomous districts. However, these continued to be governed by the executive authority of the States concerned.
3) Governor is empowered to increase or decrease the area of these autonomous districts, change their names, define boundaries, and so on.
4) The autonomous district can be divided into autonomous regions if there are different tribes residing in the district.
5) There shall be a district council for an autonomous district. This shall comprise 30 members (26 members are elected and 4 are nominated by the Governor). The term of the Council is 5 years.

107. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 339 of Indian constitution extends the Control of the Union over the administration of Scheduled Areas and the welfare of Scheduled Tribes.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The President (not the Parliament) may at any time appoint a Commission to report on the administration of the Scheduled Areas and the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the States. He can appoint such a commission at any time but compulsorily after ten years of the commencement of the Constitution. The order may define the composition, powers and procedure of the Commission and may contain such incidental or ancillary provisions as the President may consider necessary or desirable.

Statement 2 is correct: The executive power of the Union shall extend to the giving of directions to a State as to the drawing up and execution of schemes specified in the direction to be essential for the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in the State.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Two commissions were appointed by the President regarding the administration of Scheduled Areas and the welfare of Scheduled Tribes. First commission was appointed in 1960. It was headed by U.N. Dhebar (not DB Kalelkar) and submitted its report in 1961.The second commission was appointed in 2002 under the chairmanship of Dilip Singh Bhuria. It submitted its report in 2004.

Under DB Kalelkar First Backward Class Commission was set up.

108. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Section 10(26) of the Income Tax Act provides specific exemptions from income tax for certain categories of individuals. In this case, the exemption applies to members of the Scheduled Tribes in the states of Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, and Tripura.

109. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

The **Tribes Advisory Council (TAC)**, provided under **Article 244(1) in the Fifth Schedule** of the Indian Constitution, is a constitutional mechanism designed to safeguard the rights, interests, and welfare of **Scheduled Tribes** in states, particularly those with **Scheduled Areas.**

Statement I is correct: Tribes Advisory Council (TAC) have been constituted in 10 states having Scheduled Areas therein namely Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, **Gujarat**, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan. Further, **the States of West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Uttarakhand not having any notified Scheduled Area also have Tribes Advisory Council constituted** therein.

Statement II is correct: As per the **Fifth Schedule of the Constitution of India**, the Tribes Advisory Councils (TAC) shall be established in each State having Scheduled Areas therein and, **if the President so directs, also in any State having Scheduled Tribes but not Scheduled Areas therein.**

Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I: As Gujarat has notified scheduled areas under the fifth schedule and Tribes Advisory council has been established in the state as per the provision "the Tribes Advisory Councils (TAC) shall be established in each State having Scheduled Areas therein" **not the second part which says that tribes advisory council shall also be established if the President so directs, also in any State having Scheduled Tribes but not notified Scheduled Areas as per the fifth schedule.**

110. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Options 1,2,4 and 5 are correct: Panchayats (Extension

to Scheduled Areas) Act 1996 was enacted to adapt the Panchayati Raj system to the unique needs of the Fifth Schedule Areas in India. It was passed to align with the provisions of PRIs outlined in the Indian Constitution to that for Scheduled Area.

According to PESA ACT 1996, while endowing Panchayats in the Scheduled Areas with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government, a State Legislature shall ensure that the Panchayats at the appropriate level and the Gram Sabha are endowed specifically with-

(i) the power to enforce prohibition or to regulate or restrict the sale and consumption of any intoxicant;

(ii) the ownership of minor forest produce;

(iii) the power to prevent alienation of land in the Scheduled Areas and to take appropriate action to restore any unlawfully alienated land of a Scheduled Tribe;

(iv) the power to manage village markets by whatever name called;

(v) the power to exercise control over money lending to the Scheduled Tribes;

(vi) the power to exercise control over institutions and functionaries in all social sectors;

(vii) the power to control over local plans and resources for such plans including tribal sub-plans;

Option 3 is incorrect: Allocation of government contracts and tenders in area development is not a function explicitly mentioned under the PESA Act, 1996. Such activities are usually handled by state or local government authorities.

111. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Bhuria Commission, also known as Dilip Singh Bhuria Committee, **was tasked with investigating and reporting on the problems of the Scheduled Tribes (STs)** in India, formulating a comprehensive tribal policy and outlining a vision for the future of STs. It submitted its report (in three volumes) in 2004.

The Bhuria Committee was established to examine and recommend measures for improving governance in tribal areas, particularly focusing on the **reforming of tribal institutions and their governance**. It looked at how traditional tribal institutions could be integrated with the democratic framework of the country, while respecting their cultural and social uniqueness.

The Bhuria Committee made far-reaching recommendations for tribal self-governance, including giving tribal communities control over local resources, recognizing tribal customs and traditions, prioritizing tribal requirements in the interpretation of laws, and preventing alienation of tribal land.

112. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act, 1996, emerged as a crucial legislation aimed at promoting self-governance among tribal communities residing in scheduled areas of India. The Act to provide for the extension of the provisions of Part IX of the Constitution.

'Scheduled Areas' means the scheduled areas as referred in the clause (1) of Article 244 of the Indian Constitution i.e. 5th scheduled areas.

At present, 10 States namely **Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh,** Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, **Maharashtra, Odisha,** Rajasthan and Telangana have Fifth Schedule Areas. **Thus, Options 1, 2, 3 and 4 are correct.**

The Fifth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the administration and control of Scheduled Areas and of Scheduled Tribes residing in any State other than the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram (these are 6th schedule areas). **Thus, Option 5 is incorrect.**

113. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Under the **Sixth Schedule** of the Indian Constitution, the Governor of the states with tribal areas—**Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram**—has the authority to create, reorganize, or dissolve **Autonomous Districts and Autonomous Regions.**

- This includes the power to adjust boundaries, rename, or even divide a district into multiple Autonomous Regions, each representing different tribes.
- Every autonomous district is governed by a **District Council**, while each autonomous region has a separate **Regional Council.**
- Additionally, the Governor can appoint a commission to review the administration of these areas. Based on the commission's report, the **Governor has the authority to dissolve the District or Regional Council if necessary.**

114. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Indian Constitution incorporates robust safeguards to protect the **rights and interests of Scheduled Tribes (STs), recognizing their distinct cultural identity and historical marginalization.** The Constitutional provisions aim to ensure the **political representation, socio-economic development, and preservation of the unique heritage of ST communities.**

Statement 1 is correct: The Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) within the Indian Constitution mandates the State to promote the economic interests of Scheduled Tribes (STs). **Article 46** of the DPSP specifically emphasizes the **State's duty to promote the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of society, including STs,** with a focus on ameliorating their social and economic conditions.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The right to **reservation in promotion for STs in government jobs is not a fundamental right (as upheld by the Supreme Court in**

the case of Mukesh Kumar V. State of Uttarakhand), it is a constitutional provision aimed at promoting representation and opportunities for marginalized communities like STs in the government jobs/public sector.

The Supreme Court bench laid by Justice Nageswara Rao held that there is no fundamental right to Reservation in promotion.

Statement 3 is correct: Article 164 of the Constitution contains provisions regarding the appointment of Ministers in the State Government (including the Chief Minister). It provides that there shall be a **Minister in charge of tribal welfare in the States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and Odisha.** Hence, the given statement is correct.

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CONSTITUTIONAL & NON-CONSTITUTIONAL BODIES

8.1. Constitutional Bodies

1. Which of the following are valid grounds for the removal of the chairperson or a member of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)?

1. If he/she is adjudged an insolvent.
2. If he/she engages in any paid employment outside their official duties, during his/her term of office.
3. If he/she is, in the opinion of the President, unfit to continue in office by reason of infirmity of mind or body.

Select the correct answer using the code below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

2. Which of the following are among the qualifications for a person to be appointed as a member of Finance Commission of India, as per the Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951?

1. A person who is or has been or is qualified to be appointed as Judges of a High Court.
2. A person who has special knowledge of the finances and accounts of the Government.
3. A person with expertise in social work at grassroot level.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

3. Which of the following are not eligible for any further employment under Central or State Government after their tenure is completed in their respective offices?

1. Election commissioners.
2. Chairman of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).
3. Chairman of State Public Service Commission (SPSC).
4. Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG)
5. Attorney General of India.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 2 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2, 3, and 4 only
(c) 3 and 5 only
(d) 1,2, 3, 4, and 5

4. With reference to Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council, consider the following statements:

1. The GST council is periodically constituted by the President of India as and when the issue arises related to GST.
2. The Union Finance Minister is the chairperson of the Council.
3. The decisions of the council are always based on consensus.
4. The recommendations given by the council are binding upon the state and centre.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1,2 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 1,2,3 and 4

5. With reference to Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), consider the following statements:

1. S/he is responsible only to the Parliament.
2. The legal audit, regulatory audit, and propriety audits are obligatory on the part of the CAG.
3. S/he has the responsibility of auditing the secret service expenditure.

Which of the statements given above is/are ***incorrect***?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 3 only

6. The Attorney General of India is the highest law officer in the country. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. S/he has the right of audience in Supreme court only.

2. S/he is debarred from attending any joint sitting of Parliament but can attend the proceedings of either house of Parliament.
3. S/he gives advice to the Government of India upon such legal matters, which are referred to him/her by the President.
4. The remuneration of the Attorney General is determined by the President.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2, and 4 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

7. Which of the following is responsible for conducting the enquiry for the removal of a member of a State Public Service Commission on the ground of misbehaviour, as per the Constitution of India?

(a) A Judge of the Supreme Court
(b) A Judge of the High Court
(c) An Enquiry Committee constituted by the Governor
(d) Union Public Service Commission

8. Consider the following:

1. To determine the distribution of net Central GST between the Centre and the States.
2. To recommend the goods and services that may be subjected to or exempted from GST.
3. To recommend the cesses and surcharges levied by the centre, the states and the local bodies which may be subsumed in the goods and services tax.
4. To recommend principles governing the grants-in-aid of revenues to States by the Centre.

The Goods and Services Tax Council shall make recommendations to the Union and the States on which of the above according to the Constitution of India?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 4 only

9. Consider the following information:

Body	Established by	Function
1. National Commission for Scheduled Tribes	99th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2014	To ensure the implementation of the Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996
2. National Commission for Backward Classes	103rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 2019	To handle the complaints and grievances related to Other backward classes (OBCs)
3. Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities	7th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1956	To investigate matters related to the Constitutional safeguards provided to the linguistic minorities

In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

10. As per the Constitution of India, consider the following statements with reference to the Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) of India:

1. S/he is appointed by the President by warrant under his/her hand and seal.
2. His/her salary and other conditions of service are determined by the Parliament by law.
3. S/he can only be removed from office in like manner and on like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court.
4. S/he shall not be eligible for further office under the Government of India after he/she has ceased to hold the office of CAG.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

11. With reference to the Election Commission of India (ECI), consider the following statements:

1. It conducts Elections to the office of deputy chairman of Rajya Sabha.
2. It consists of the chief election commissioner and such number of other election commissioners as the Parliament may, by law, decide from time to time.
3. Constitution does not impose any prohibition on retired Election Commissioners from taking any appointment in a public office.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

12. With reference to the Finance Commission (FC) of India, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: Finance Commission is considered as the balancing wheel of fiscal federalism in India.

Statement-II: As per the Indian Constitution, the Central Government cannot reject the recommendations of the Finance Commission regarding devolution of funds to the State governments.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) -I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct

13. Which of the following statements is not correct regarding the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)?

(a) 102nd Amendment Act of 2018 granted Constitutional recognition to the NCBC.
(b) During the investigation or examination of any issue or complaint, the Commission possesses the same authority as a civil court.
(c) The Commission is composed of a Chairperson and five other members, with at least two members belonging to backward classes.
(d) The Commission examines and oversees constitutional and legal safeguards for socially and educationally backward classes.

14. With reference to State Public Services Commission (SPSC), consider the following statements:

1. The Governor appoints the Chairman and other members of the SPSC.
2. The Constitution authorizes the State legislature to determine the conditions of service of the chairman and members of the Commission.
3. It shall be consulted regarding disciplinary matters affecting a person serving under the state government in a civil capacity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

15. With reference to key government functionaries in India, consider the following:

1. Attorney General of India
2. Governor of a state
3. Central Information Commissioner
4. Members of the Joint Public Service Commission (JPSC)

Which of the above functionaries hold office during the pleasure of the President?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

16. In context of Indian polity, which one of the following statements regarding the GST Council is *incorrect*?

(a) It was established following the enactment of the 101st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2016.
(b) A minimum of one-third of the total members of the GST Council constitutes the quorum for its meetings.
(c) The GST Council has the authority to determine its own procedures for conducting its functions.
(d) The Union Finance Minister serves as the Chairperson of the GST Council.

17. Consider the following statements regarding the comparison between Attorney General of India and the Advocate General of State:

1. Both are constitutional bodies established under the provisions of the Constitution of India.
2. Both are prohibited from engaging in any private legal practice during their tenure.
3. Both hold office during the pleasure of their appointing authority.
4. Both can hold public office after the completion of their tenure.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4
(c) 1, 2 and 4
(d) 1, 3 and 4

18. With reference to 'Union Public Service Commission', consider the statements:

1. It acts as a central personnel agency in India responsible for cadre management of all-India services and Central services.
2. The jurisdiction of UPSC can be extended by an act made by Parliament.
3. If the government fails to consult UPSC on matters relating to methods of recruitment to civil services, the aggrieved public servant has no remedy in court.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

19. Which of the following statements support the argument that the Finance Commission is a quasi-judicial body?

1. The commission submits its report to the President to be laid before both the Houses of Parliament.
2. The recommendations of the commission shall be implemented within a specified time frame.
3. The Commission has the powers of a civil court, and it can summon witnesses and take evidence.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

20. Which of the following are the functions of 'National Commission for Scheduled Castes'?

1. To enquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights of the Schedule Castes.
2. To investigate and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional safeguards for the Schedule Castes.
3. Specifying the castes to be deemed as Scheduled Castes in relation to any Union Territory.
4. Annually present a report to the President upon the working of safeguards for Schedule Castes in India.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

21. With reference to 'Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities', consider the following statements:

1. Originally, the Constitution of India did not make any provision with respect to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.
2. A Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities is appointed by the Central government after consultation with the states.
3. The Office of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities falls under the ambit of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

22. The Constitution of India provides which of the following provisions to ensure the independence of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC)?

1. The Chief Election Commissioner is to be appointed by a collegium headed by the Prime Minister.
2. Retiring Chief Election Commissioner is not eligible for any further appointment under the government.

3. He can be removed only on the same grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court.
4. The service conditions of the Chief Election Commissioner cannot be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

23. Consider the following statements in relation to the State Finance Commission (SFC):

1. It is constituted by the Governor of the respective states.
2. Its function is to recommend the distribution of net proceeds of taxes between the state and its local bodies.
3. Its recommendations are non-binding on the state Government.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

24. With reference to Attorney General of India, consider the following statement:

1. S/he shall receive such remuneration as the Parliament may determine.
2. S/he has the right to speak and to take part in the proceedings of any committee of the parliament of which he/she may be named a member but without a right to vote.
3. His/her term of Office is fixed for 5 years as per the constitution under article 76.
4. S/he, being a Full time Counsel for the Government, is debarred from Private Legal Practice.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

25. Consider the following statements about State Public Service Commissions (SPSC):

1. Recommendations made by the SPSC to the State government are advisory in nature.
2. Chairman & members of SPSC can be removed only by the President.
3. Pensions of Chairman & members of SPSC are charged upon the consolidated fund of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 2 and 3 only

26. With reference to functions of Election commission of India (ECI), consider the following statements:

Election commission of India (ECI) can:

1. exercise the authority to suspend polls in case of rigging/booth capturing.
2. Provide its opinion to the Governor on matters related to the disqualification of members of state legislatures.
3. register and de-register political parties.
4. identify the seats to be reserved for Scheduled Castes based on their population.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

27. The Constitution of India under Article 350-B provides for special officer for linguistic minorities. In this context, consider the following statements:

1. Original constitution of India did not provide for special officer for linguistic minorities, it was added by the 7th constitutional amendment act in 1956.
2. S/he shall report to President upon matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities under the Constitution at such interval as President may direct.
3. Article 350-B provides for qualification and procedure for removal of special officer for linguistic minorities.

Which of the above given statements are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

28. With reference to Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council, consider the following statements:

1. It is chaired by the Union Finance Minister.
2. Every decision of the GST Council requires support of more than three-fourths of the weighted votes of the members present.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

29. With reference to 'Comptroller and Auditor General of India' (CAG), consider the following statements:

1. His/her salary and allowances are determined by the President of India.
2. S/he can be removed from office in the same manner as a judge of the Supreme Court.
3. S/he cannot hold any other position within the Government of India or any state government after completion of his tenure.
4. The administrative expenses of the office of the CAG are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

30. With reference to the State Election Commissions (SECs) in India, consider the following statements:

1. The State Election Commissioner is appointed by the Chief Election Commissioner of India.
2. It is responsible for the delimitation of constituencies before the election of local bodies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

8.2. Non-Constitutional Bodies

31. Consider the following statements regarding the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC):

1. It is a statutory body established under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
2. The Chairperson of the NHRC must be a retired Chief Justice of India.
3. It can provide interim relief, including monetary compensation to victims of human rights violations.
4. Upon completion of their tenure, the members of NHRC are not eligible for further employment under the Central or a state government.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

32. Consider the following statements with respect to the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI):

1. It is a statutory body.
2. Appeals against its orders can be only made in the Supreme Court.
3. It has the authority to cancel the minority status of an educational institution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

33. With reference to the Solicitor General of India, consider the following statements:

1. The office of the Solicitor General is not mentioned in the Constitution.
2. S/he assists the Attorney General in the fulfilment of the latter's official responsibilities.
3. S/he holds the same rank as the Cabinet Secretary in the table of precedence.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

34. With reference to Central Information Commission (CIC), consider the following statements:

1. Chief Information Commissioner is appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal.
2. The term of office for Information Commissioners is prescribed by the Central Government.
3. Only those Members of Parliament are eligible to be an Information Commissioner who does not belong to the ruling party or the ruling coalition.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

35. With reference to Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), consider the following statements:

1. It is neither a constitutional body nor a statutory body.
2. The jurisdiction of the Commission covers public servants under both the Central Government and state Governments.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

36. With reference to Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), consider the following statements:

Statement I: Under no circumstance, it can investigate a crime within a state's border without the consent of the concerned state government.

Statement II: The Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act of 1946 requires the CBI to obtain the consent of the state governments before investigating a crime within a particular state.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I
(b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I
(c) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(d) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

37. The members of Lokpal are appointed based on the recommendation of a Selection committee. In this context, who among the following is not part of the Selection committee of Lokpal?

(a) Prime Minister
(b) Home Minister
(c) Leaded of Opposition in Lok Sabha
(d) Speaker of Lok Sabha

38. With reference to National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), consider the following statements:

1. It is a multi-member body headed by the Prime Minister of India.
2. It works under the administrative control of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change.
3. It exercises superintendence and control over the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1,2 and 3

39. With reference to the Bar Council of India (BCI), consider the following statements:

1. It is neither a statutory nor a constitutional body.
2. The Attorney-General of India is an ex-officio member of the Council.
3. Its chairman is appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

40. Which of the following bodies is responsible for deciding the number of Lok Sabha and Legislative Assembly seats reserved for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) based on their population?

(a) National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
(b) Election Commission of India
(c) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
(d) Delimitation Commission

41. Consider the following statements with reference to NITI Aayog:

1. The Prime Minister of India is the ex-officio Chairperson of NITI Aayog.
2. The Governing Council of NITI Aayog includes the Chief Ministers of all states.
3. The Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog holds a rank equivalent to that of a Cabinet Minister.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

42. In the contexts of India, consider the following statements with reference to the Lokpal and Lokayuktas:

1. The office of Lokpal and Lokayukta in India resembles to the institution of Ombudsman in Scandinavian countries.
2. There is uniformity among the powers of Lokayuktas of different states.
3. The Prime Minister of India has been kept completely outside the purview of the Lokpal.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

43. Consider the following:

A complaint can be filed with the Lokpal of India against:

1. Former Prime Minister of India
2. Minister of a Union Government
3. Chief Justice of India
4. Group D officer in the Government of India

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4
(c) 1, 2 and 4
(d) 1, 3 and 4

44. The Prime Minister's National Relief Fund is operated by which one of the following bodies?

(a) The Prime Minister's Office (PMO)
(b) The National Disaster Management Authority
(c) The Ministry of Finance
(d) The Inter State Council

45. With reference to the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) in India, consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body.
2. It has the jurisdiction to entertain complaints when the value of goods or services paid as consideration exceeds ₹2 crore.
3. The order of National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission is final and binding on concerned parties.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

46. Consider the following information:

Body	Status	Chairperson/Members appointed by
1. Central Vigilance Commission	Statutory body	Appointments committee of the Cabinet
2. Central Information Commission	Statutory body	President
3. Joint Public Service Commission	Constitutional body	President

In how many of the above rows the information given is correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

47. With reference to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body.
2. It requires prior approval from the respective state government before conducting investigations in that state.

3. It can investigate and prosecute cases related to terrorism and human trafficking.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1, 2, and 3
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

48. With reference to the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) in India, consider the following statements:
1. It is responsible for establishing special courts under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.
2. It examines and reviews the safeguards of child rights provided under the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009.
3. It coordinates with and advises the State Adoption Resource Agencies (SARA) in adoption related matters.
4. It monitors the functioning of Child Care Institutions (CCIs) under Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 2 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4
(d) 1, 3 and 4

49. With reference to the Bar Council of India (BCI), consider the following statements:
1. It consists of members nominated from the State Bar Councils.
2. The Attorney General of India and the Solicitor General of India are ex-officio members of the BCI.
3. It has the power to lay down the rules relating to legal education and recognition of law Universities in India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1, 2, and 3
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

50. With reference to Central Pay Commission in India, consider the following statements:
1. The Chairman and members of the Central Pay Commission are appointed by the President of India.
2. As of 2025, a total of eight Central Pay Commissions have been constituted in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

51. In the context of the Law Commission of India, consider the following statement:
1. It is a statutory body.
2. Its members are appointed for a fixed tenure of five years.
3. Since independence, twenty-three Law Commissions have been notified in India till date.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None of the above

52. With reference to the Press Council of India (PCI), consider the following statements:
1. It is a statutory body.
2. Its Chairman is appointed by a committee consisting of the Union Minister of Home Affairs and a Supreme Court judge.
3. Its decisions are final and cannot be questioned in any court of law.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

53. Consider the following statements about the Competition Commission of India (CCI):
1. CCI is a statutory authority established under Companies act 2013.
2. Chairman and other members of CCI are appointed by the President of India.
3. CCI cannot impose penalties directly on the private companies for abuse of dominant market position.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None of the above

54. Which of the following statements about The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) is correct?

(a) It is an executive body under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
(b) It is headed only by a sitting or retired judge of the Supreme court of India.
(c) It provides redressal at free of cost to aggrieved consumers.
(d) It cannot take up complaints for alleged deficiency in any service that is rendered free of charge.

55. The Enforcement Directorate (ED), a multi-disciplinary organization, is frequently seen in the news. In this context, consider the following:

1. ED operates under the administrative control of the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.
2. ED can make arrests for violation of the PMLA 2002, even without mandatorily providing a copy of the Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) to the accused.
3. In certain cases, statements recorded by the ED officials can be admitted as evidence in court.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3 only

56. Consider the following statements regarding the 'Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)':

1. It is a statutory body established under the provisions of Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.
2. The superintendence of CBI related to the investigation of offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, lies with the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC).
3. It can take up Suo-moto investigation of offenses anywhere in the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None of the above

57. With reference to Indian Polity, consider the following authorities:

1. Chief Justice of India
2. Prime Minister of India
3. Speaker of Lok Sabha
4. Leader of opposition in Rajya Sabha
5. Union Home Minister

How many of the above are members of the committee responsible for recommending the appointment of the Chairperson and members of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

58. Consider the following statements about the Directorate of Enforcement (ED):

1. It is a statutory body.
2. It is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Finance.
3. It cannot take a Suo motu action on any financial irregularity.
4. It is responsible for the enforcement of Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

59. Consider the following statements about Central Information Commission (CIC):

1. The salaries of the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and the Information Commissioners (ICs) are decided by Parliament.
2. While the CIC has the authority to recommend disciplinary action against a Public Information Officer (PIO), it cannot directly impose a penalty on the PIO.
3. RTI amendment act, 2019, authorizes the Central Government to prescribe the term of office of CIC and ICs.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 only

60. With reference to the institution of Lokpal in India, consider the following statements:

1. Any person who is or has been a chairperson or member of a Board or corporation which is wholly or partly funded by the Central government falls under Lokpal's jurisdiction.
2. Lokpal has the power of superintendence over Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for cases referred by Lokpal to CBI.
3. Lokpal can provisionally attach the property of an accused acquired by corrupt means, even while prosecution is pending.
4. The Selection committee responsible for recommending Lokpal members to the President is composed of the Prime Minister, the Chief Justice of India, and the union Home Minister.

Which of the above given statements are correct?

(a) 2, 3 and 4 only
(b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

61. With reference to National Commission on Minorities (NCM), consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body.
2. All the members of the commission should be from the minority community.
3. The commission presents an annual report to the Central government.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

62. Consider the following statements regarding the Central and State Information Commission:

1. The tenure of central and state information commissioners has now been reduced to 3 years.
2. The Salary of the Chief Information Commissioner at Centre will be equivalent to the salary paid to the Chief Election Commissioner.
3. The Chief Information Commissioner at Centre is eligible for reappointment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 1, 2, and 3

63. Lokpal is a statutory body that performs the role of an "Ombudsman". Consider the following statements with reference to Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act 2013:

1. Lokpal's jurisdiction covers all categories of public servants of the Union including those belonging to Groups C and D.
2. Lokpal can Suo motu proceed against any public servant.
3. Under the act, any person can file an anonymous complaint against a public servant.
4. The Lokpal has the power of superintendence and direction over any central investigating agency.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 1 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

64. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the National Investigation Agency (NIA)?

1. It can investigate a terror case in a state only after getting permission from the concerned state government.
2. It has the authority to investigate offences that are committed outside Indian territory.
3. The agency can investigate offences related to Cyber terrorism.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

65. With reference to provisions related to Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC), consider the following statements:

1. The Government of India Act of 1935 provided for the establishment of Joint Public Service Commission.
2. Only the Parliament decides the number of members in a JSPSC and their conditions of service through an act.

3. The Chairman and Members can be suspended by the Governor but can be removed by the President only.
4. A JSPSC presents its annual performance report to the Governors of concerned states.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

66. NITI Aayog is the premier policy 'Think Tank' of the Government of India. In this context, consider the following statements:
1. One of the objectives of NITI Aayog is to formulate credible plans at the village level and aggregate these progressively at higher levels of government.
2. The regional council of NITI Aayog is headed by the union home minister.
3. The erstwhile Planning Commission was established by an executive resolution whereas NITI Aayog is established under a Legislative Act.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, and 3

67. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is the watchdog of human rights in the country. In this context, consider the following statements:
1. A person currently serving as the Chief justice of a High Court can become a member of NHRC.
2. The NHRC act mandates the commission to meet at least 3 times a year.
3. They can visit jails and detention places to study the living conditions of inmates.
4. They have all the powers of a civil court, and its proceedings have a judicial character.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 3, and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, and 4

68. Which of the following officers are appointed by the Governor of the state but removed by the President of India?
1. Chairman of State Public Service commission
2. Members of State Human Rights Commission
3. Chairman of Joint Public Service Commission
4. State Chief Information Commissioner

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2, and 3 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

69. With reference to Solicitor General of India, consider the following statements:
1. The post of Solicitor General of India is non-statutory in nature.
2. S/he can represent the government in references made by the President to the Supreme Court under Article 143 of the Constitution.
3. Similar to the Attorney General of India, the Solicitor General can participate in parliamentary proceedings.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

70. Which one of the following statements about the Solicitor General of India (SGI) is/are correct
1. The SGI is the second highest law officer in the country.
2. The post of the SGI is a constitutional post.
3. The SGI is appointed by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

SOLUTIONS

8.1. Constitutional Bodies

1. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The **removal of the Chairperson or a member of the Union Public Service Commission** (UPSC) is governed by **Article 317** of the Indian Constitution. It provides the grounds and procedures for their removal. The Chairperson or a member of the UPSC can **only be removed by** the **President of India.**

Option 1 is correct: Adjudged insolvency is a valid ground for removal. If a member of the UPSC, including the chairperson, is declared bankrupt or unable to pay their debts, they can be removed from their position.

Option 2 is correct: Engaging in paid employment outside the duties of office is also a valid ground for removal. The **chairperson or a member of the UPSC is prohibited from engaging in any paid employment outside their official duties during their term.** This rule is in place to prevent conflicts of interest and ensure that their full attention and efforts are dedicated to their responsibilities in the Commission.

Option 3 is correct: The Chairman or the members of UPSC can be removed by the President of India, if in the opinion of the President, they are **unfit to continue in office due to infirmity of mind or body.**

Important Tips

Other grounds for Removal of UPSC Chairperson or a Member: Misbehaviour: In cases of misbehaviour, the **President must refer the matter to the Supreme Court** of India for an inquiry. The recommendation of the Supreme Court is binding on the President.

2. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Options 1 and 2 are correct: As per the Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951 the Qualifications for appointment as, and the manner of selection of, members of the commission: The Chairman of the Commission shall be selected from among persons who have had experience in public affairs, and the four other members shall be selected from among persons who--

1. are, or have been, or are qualified to be appointed as Judges of a High Court; or
2. have special knowledge of the finances and accounts of Government; or
3. have had wide experience in financial matters and in administration; or
4. have special knowledge of economics.

Option 3 is incorrect: A person with expertise in social work at grassroot level is not one of the qualifications for a person to be appointed as a member of Finance Commission of India, as per the Finance Commission (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1951.

3. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Option 1 is incorrect: The **Constitution has not debarred the retiring election commissioners from any further appointment by the government.** Thus, they can take employment after their retirement.

Option 2 is correct: The chairman of UPSC (on ceasing to hold office) **is not eligible for further employment in the Government of India or a state.** A member of UPSC (on ceasing to hold office) is eligible for appointment as the chairman of UPSC or a State Public Service Commission (SPSC), but not for any other employment in the Government of India or a state.

Option 3 is incorrect: The **chairman of a SPSC** (on ceasing to hold office) **is eligible** for **appointment as the chairman or a member of the UPSC** or as the **chairman of any other SPSC, but not for any other employment** under the Government of India or a state. A member of a SPSC (on ceasing to hold office) is eligible for appointment as the chairman or a member of the UPSC, or as the chairman of that SPSC or any other SPSC, but not for any other employment under the Government of India or a state.

Option 4 is correct: CAG is the head of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department. S/ he is the guardian of the public purse and controls the entire financial system of the country at both the levels–the Centre and the state. S/he **is not eligible for further office, either under the Government of India or of any state, after he ceases to hold his office.**

Option 5 is incorrect: The Attorney General is not a fulltime counsel for the Government. He does not fall into the category of government servants. Further, **he is not debarred from private legal practice. Also, not debarred from further employment.**

4. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Goods & Services Tax (GST) Council is a constitutional body for making recommendations to the Union and State Government on issues related to Goods and Service Tax.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Goods & Services Tax (GST) Council was **established by the President as per Article 279A (1) of the Constitution.**

Statement 2 is correct: The **Union Finance Minister is the chairperson of this council.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: GST council decides the GST rate on various goods and services. Every decision of the GST Council is taken at a meeting, **by a majority of not less than three fourths** of the weighted votes of the members present and voting.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The **recommendations given by this council are not binding,** recently the **Supreme court** held that **Article 246A** of the Constitution gives both **Parliament and state legislatures a power to legislate on GST.** The supreme court observed that recommendations of the Council as the product of a collaborative dialogue between the Union and States but **it is not binding in nature.**

Important Tips

- The GST council was notified under Article 279(1) of the constitution after passing **the Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016** by the parliament and ratification by 15 states of India.
- Members of this council include Union Finance Minister **as chairperson, the Union Minister of State,** in-charge of Revenue of finance and the **Minister of finance for state governments** or **any other Minister nominated by each State Governments.**

5. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) is **the head of the Indian Audit and Accounts** Department. He is the **guardian of the public purse** and controls the entire financial system of the country at both the levels–the Centre and the state. His duty is to **uphold the Constitution of India and laws of Parliament** in the field of financial administration.

Statement 1 is correct: The role of CAG is to uphold the Constitution of India and the laws of Parliament in the field of financial administration. The **accountability of the executive** (i.e., council of ministers) to Parliament in the sphere of financial administration is **secured through audit reports of the CAG.** The CAG is an agent of the Parliament and **conducts audit of expenditure on behalf of the Parliament. Therefore, he/she is responsible only to Parliament.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: In addition to legal and regulatory audit, **the CAG can also conduct the propriety audit,** that is, he can investigate the 'wisdom, faithfulness and economy' of government expenditure and comment on the wastefulness and extravagance of such expenditure. However, **unlike the legal and regulatory audit, which is obligatory** on the part of the CAG, the **propriety audit is discretionary.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: The **secret service expenditure is a limitation on the auditing role of the CAG.** In this regard, the CAG cannot call for particulars of expenditure incurred by the executive agencies but **has to accept a certificate** from the **competent** administrative **authority** that the **expenditure** has been so **incurred under his authority.**

Important Tips

Comptroller and Auditor General of India

1) He is **appointed by the president** of India by a warrant under his hand and seal.
2) He makes and subscribes **before the president an oath** or affirmation.
3) He holds office for a period of **six years or up to the age of 65 years,** whichever is earlier.
4) He can **resign** any time from his office by addressing the resignation letter to the president. He can **also be removed** by the president on same grounds and in the same manner as a **judge of the Supreme Court.**
5) He is **not eligible for further office,** either under the Government of India or of any state, after he ceases to hold his office

6. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 76 of the Indian Constitution provides for the Attorney General of India. He is the highest law officer in the country.

Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect: In the performance of his official duties, **the Attorney General has the right of audience in all courts in the territory of India** and not just Supreme court. Further, **he has the right to speak and to take part in the proceedings of both the Houses of Parliament or their joint sitting** and any committee of the Parliament of which he may be named a member, but **without a right to vote.** He enjoys all the privileges and immunities that are available to a member of Parliament.

Statement 3 is correct: As the chief law officer of the Government of India, the duties of the AG include the following:

1) **To give advice to the Government of India upon such legal matters, which are referred to him by the president.**
2) To perform such other duties of a legal character that are assigned to him by the president.
3) To discharge the functions conferred on him by the Constitution or any other law.

Statement 4 is correct: The remuneration of the Attorney General is determined by the **President.**

He may also quit his office by submitting his resignation to the President.

Important Tips

Attorney General of India:

1) He is **appointed by the President.**
2) He must be a person who **is qualified** to be appointed a **judge of the Supreme Court.**
3) The **term of office** of the AG is **not fixed by the Constitution.** Further, the Constitution does not contain the procedure and grounds for his removal. He holds office during the **pleasure of the president.**
4) The Attorney General is **not a full-time counsel for the Government.**
5) He is **not debarred from private** legal **practice.**
6) The president has assigned the **following duties** to the Attorney General of India:

a) To **appear on behalf of the Government** of India in all cases in the Supreme Court **in which the Government of India is concerned.**

b) To **represent the Government** of India in any **reference made by the president** to the Supreme Court under **Article 143** of the Constitution.

c) To **appear** (when required by the Government of India) in **any high court** in any case in which the Government of India is concerned

7. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Members of the State Public Service Commission (SPSC) are **appointed by the Governor**, but they can **only be removed by the President** of India, not by the Governor. The process of removal follows the same grounds and manner as applicable to the members of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

The President can remove a member of the SPSC under the following circumstances:

- If adjudged insolvent.
- If engaged in paid employment outside official duties during their term.
- If deemed unfit to continue in office due to infirmity of mind or body.
- Misbehaviour

In cases of misbehaviour, the **President must refer the matter to the Supreme Court for an enquiry**. If a **Supreme Court Judge**, after the enquiry, confirms the charges of misbehaviour and advises removal, the President can remove the member. The Supreme Court's advice in such cases is **binding** on the President.

Thus, the **enquiry for removal due to misbehaviour is conducted exclusively by a Judge of the Supreme Court.**

8. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

The **GST Council** is a **constitutional body** established to oversee and make recommendations on issues related to the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India. Formed under **Article 279A** of the Constitution, it was created through the **101st Constitutional Amendment Act of 2016.**

The GST Council is **chaired by the Union Finance Minister** and includes the Union Minister of State for Finance and the finance ministers of state, or any other minister nominated by each state government.

Statement 1 is incorrect: To **determine the distribution of net Central GST taxes between the Centre and the States** is the **responsibility of the Finance Commission (FC), not the GST Council.**

Article 270 of the Constitution provides for the scheme of distribution of net tax proceeds collected by the Union government between the Centre and the States. Thes taxes include **corporation tax, personal income tax, Central GST, the Centre's share of the Integrated Goods and Services Tax** (IGST) etc. This division is **based on the recommendation of the Finance Commission** (FC).

Statement 2 is correct: To make **recommendations** to the centre and the states, **regarding the goods and services that may be subjected to, or exempted from GST** is a **core function of the GST Council.**

Statement 3 is correct: Recommending the taxes, cesses and surcharges levied by the Centre, the States, and the local bodies that may be merged into GST is also a **function of the GST Council.**

Statement 4 is incorrect: Recommending principles governing the **grants-in-aid of revenues to States** by the Centre is a **function of the Finance Commission, not the GST Council.**

9. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Information in row 1 is incorrect: The **National Commission for Scheduled Tribes** (NCST) was established under the **89th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2003**, which inserted **Article 338A** in the Constitution of India. It monitors all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Scheduled Tribes., and ensures their socio-economic development.

One of its key functions is to **ensure the full implementation of the Panchayat (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA)**. PESA extends the provisions of Panchayati Raj institutions to tribal areas, empowering tribals with greater control over their resources and governance in Scheduled Areas.

The **99th Constitutional Amendment Act (2014)**, on the other hand, pertains to the creation of the **National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC)** for the appointment of judges to the higher judiciary.

Information in row 2 is incorrect: The **National Commission for Backward Classes** (NCBC) was established through the **102nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 2018**, which added Article **338B** to the Constitution of India. The NCBC is tasked with safeguarding the interests of socially and educationally backward classes. Ons of its primary functions is to **handle complaints and Grievances relating to OBCs.**

The **103rd Constitutional Amendment Act** (2019) does not relate to the NCBC; instead, it **introduced a 10% reservation for economically weaker sections** (EWS), which is a separate provision.

Information in row 3 is correct: The **Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities** was created through the **7th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956**. The officer's role, as outlined under **Article 350B** of the Constitution, is to **ensure the protection and promotion of the rights of linguistic minorities in India**. This includes investigating all matters related to safeguards provided to the linguistic minorities.

10. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 148 of the Constitution of India provides for the Comptroller & Auditor General of India, who is appointed by the President.

Statements 1 and 3 are correct: As per Article 148 of the Constitution of India- There **shall be a Comptroller and Auditor-General of India who shall be appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal and shall only be removed from office in like manner and on like grounds as a Judge of the Supreme Court.**

Statement 2 is correct: The **salary and other conditions of service of the Comptroller and Auditor-General shall be such as may be determined by Parliament by law** and, until they are so determined, shall be as specified in the Second Schedule. This is under the condition that neither the salary of a Comptroller and Auditor-General nor his rights in respect of leave of absence, pension or age of retirement shall be varied to his disadvantage after his appointment

Statement 4 is correct: The Comptroller and Auditor-General **shall not be eligible for further office** either under the Government of India or under the Government of any State **after he has ceased to hold his office.**

11. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

The Election Commission is an autonomous and permanent body established by the Indian Constitution with the primary mandate of ensuring fair and free elections in the nation. It operates at the national level, serving both the Central government and state governments.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Article 324 of the Constitution stipulates that the Election Commission of India is entrusted with the authority to oversee, guide, and control elections for the **members of Parliament, State Legislatures, the President of India, and the Vice-President of India.** Hence, **ECI is responsible for conducting elections to the office of Vice-President of India (who is also the chairperson of Rajya Sabha). Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha is elected by Rajya Sabha itself, from among its members. Their election is not conducted by ECI.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 324 of the Constitution specifies that the Election Commission shall comprise the Chief Election Commissioner and such number of other election commissioners as the President may from time-to-time fix. Hence it is not the Parliament, but the President of India who decides the number of other election commissioners to be appointed to ECI.

Further the **appointment** of the Chief election commissioner and other election commissioners shall be made by the **President of India.**

Statement 3 is correct: It is true that the Indian Constitution does **not impose any prohibition on retired Election Commissioners** from accepting appointments in government offices.

12. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Article 280 of the Indian Constitution establishes a Finance Commission as a quasi-judicial entity. The President of India forms this commission every fifth year or even before the completion of a five-year period, if deemed necessary by the President.

Statement-I is correct: Finance Commission of India is often referred to as the "balancing wheel of fiscal federalism" in India. Its role is to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of financial resources between the Central Government and State Governments, which helps balance fiscal relations in the federal structure of India.

Statement-II is incorrect: The recommendations made by the Finance Commission are only of an advisory nature and hence, not binding on the Government of India. It is **nowhere laid down in the Constitution** that the Central Government **cannot reject** the recommendations of the Commission regarding devolution of funds to the State governments.

It is up to the Union government to implement its recommendations on granting money to the states. Nevertheless, due to its constitutional status, the Union Government generally accepts the recommendations proposed by the Finance Commission.

13. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In the 1992 Mandal case verdict, the Supreme Court mandated the establishment of a permanent statutory body by the central government to address complaints regarding the inclusion or exclusion of citizens in the list of backward classes. Consequently, **NCBC was constituted pursuant to the provisions of the National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993.**

Statement a is correct: The 102nd Amendment Act of 2018 granted constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC). **It introduced Article 338B in the Indian Constitution, establishing the NCBC as a constitutional body for the socially and educationally backward classes.**

Statement b is correct: The Commission, during its investigations or complaint inquiries, is vested with the authority equivalent to that of a civil court. This includes **summoning individuals from any part of India, administering oaths, demanding documents, accepting evidence by affidavit, accessing public records, and issuing summons to examine witnesses and documents.**

Statement c is incorrect: The Commission is composed of a **Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, and three other members**, and they are appointed by the President through a warrant under his hand and seal. The conditions of their service and tenure of office are also determined by the President. **There is no provision mandating that at least two members must belong to backward classes.**

Statement d is correct: The National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) is responsible for examining and overseeing constitutional and legal safeguards for socially and educationally backward classes (SEBCs). **This includes monitoring the various safeguards under the Constitution or other laws, addressing complaints related to SEBCs' rights, and advising on their socio-economic development and progress under the Union and State governments.**

14. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The State Public Service Commissions (SPSCs) in India are crucial institutions established under Article 315 of the Indian Constitution. They have a significant role in ensuring fair and transparent recruitment to state civil services and for advising the state government on various service matters like promotions, transfers, and disciplinary actions as outlined in Article 320.

Statement 1 is correct: According to Article 316 of the Indian Constitution, the Chairman and members of the State Public Service Commission are appointed by the Governor of the state. This aligns with the constitutional guidelines that ensure the SPSC operates under the state's jurisdiction.

Statement 2 is incorrect: According to Article 318 of the constitution, in the case of a State Commission, the **Governor of the State** may by regulations determine **the number of members of the Commission and their conditions of service.**

Statement 3 is correct: Article 320 provides that the **State Public Service Commission shall be consulted on all disciplinary matters affecting a person serving under the state government in a civil capacity, among other duties and functions.** This includes consultations on disciplinary actions which is a critical aspect of maintaining governance and administrative integrity within the state services.

Important Tips

1) SPSCs play a pivotal role in maintaining the efficiency and integrity of the state administrative machinery. They help uphold the principles of merit and fairness in government recruitments.
2) Instances like the recruitment of state police officers, state civil administrators, and other key bureaucratic positions are typical roles filled through SPSC examinations and recommendations.
3) The conduct and integrity of SPSCs directly impact the quality of governance and public service delivery at the state level, making them fundamental pillars in India's federal structure.

15. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

In Indian polity, the phrase "holding office during the pleasure of the President" refers to the power of the President of India to appoint and remove certain officials, without requiring any specific reason or justification. The removal power is often exercised based on constitutional provisions and on the advice of the Council of Ministers (as per Article 74).

Option 1 is correct: The Attorney General (AG) is appointed by the president. **He holds office during the pleasure of the president**. This means that he may be removed by the President at any time.

Option 2 is correct: As per Article 156 of the Indian Constitution, a governor of a state holds office for a term of five years from the date on which he enters upon his office. However, **this term of five years is subject to the pleasure of the President.** Further, he can resign at any time by addressing a resignation letter to the President.

Option 3 is incorrect: Central Information Commissioner (CIC) does not hold office during the pleasure of the President; the CIC has a fixed tenure and can only be removed through a specific process outlined in the Right to Information Act, 2005. CIC can be removed from his office only by order of the President on the ground of proved misbehavior or incapacity after the Supreme Court, on a reference made to it by the President, has, on inquiry, reported that the Chief Information Commissioner or any Information Commissioner, as the case may be, ought on such ground be removed.

Option 4 is incorrect: The Article 315 of the Constitution makes a provision for the establishment of a Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC) for two or more states. Unlike officials who serve at the President's pleasure, **JPSC members can be removed only through a formal process laid down in Article 317.** The procedure ensures fairness and safeguards against arbitrary removal. The President can remove a member only after an inquiry by the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court must find the member guilty of misbehaviour or incapacity. The President acts based on the Supreme Court's recommendations.

16. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council** is a **constitutional body** established under **Article 279A** of the Constitution, introduced by the **101st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2016.** It is tasked with making recommendations to the Union and the States on various important aspects related to GST.

Statement a is correct: The **President of India** constituted the GST Council following the enactment of the **101st Amendment** in 2016 under **Article 279A (1).** This amendment represents a landmark in India's fiscal federalism, aiming to streamline indirect taxation across the country by establishing a unified tax system.

Statement b is incorrect: The **correct quorum** for GST Council meetings is **at least 50% (one-half)** of the total members (Article 279A(7)).Stating **one-third** is incorrect.This quorum ensures that both Union and State representatives are adequately present during the Council's proceedings.

Statement c is correct: The GST Council is empowered to **determine its own procedure** for the conduct of its functions under **Article 279A (8)**.This autonomy is essential for the Council's flexibility in adapting to evolving economic and administrative needs.

Statement d is correct: The **Union Finance Minister** acts as the **Chairperson** of the Council. Other members include the Union Minister of State for Finance and the Finance Ministers of all States and Union Territories with legislatures.

Important Tips

1. Every decision of the Council must be taken with a **three-fourths majority** of the weighted votes of members present and voting.
   a) **Centre's vote:** One-third of total weightage.
   b) **All States' votes combined:** Two-thirds of total weightage.

   This ensures **cooperative federalism**, where the States collectively hold more voting power than the Centre.
2. **Functions of GST Council (Article 279A(4))** include making recommendations on:
   a) Taxes and cesses to be subsumed in GST
   b) Goods and services to be taxed or exempted
   c) Threshold limits and floor rates
   d) Model GST laws
   e) Special provisions for northeastern and hilly states
3. In the **Union of India vs Mohit Minerals Case (2022)**, the Supreme Court clarified that the **recommendations of the GST Council are not binding**, though they carry persuasive value.

17. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The **Attorney General of India** and the **Advocate General of a State** are the highest law officers at the Union and State levels respectively. Both hold constitutional positions and perform similar legal advisory roles within their jurisdictions, though there are important distinctions in terms of appointment, powers, and privileges.

Statement 1 is correct: The **Attorney General of India** is appointed under **Article 76** and the Advocate General under **Article 165** of the Constitution. Hence, both are **constitutional bodies.**.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Contrary to government servants, **both are permitted to engage in private legal practice.** However, they are **restricted from appearing against the government** and must seek prior approval in certain sensitive matters, ensuring no conflict of interest arises.

Statement 3 is correct: Both law officers **hold office during the pleasure** of their respective appointing authorities—**President** in the case of Attorney General of India and **Governor** in the case of the Advocate General. Their tenure is **not fixed** by the Constitution.

Statement 4 is correct: There is **no prohibition** on either of them from taking up **future public employment** after demitting office. This is in contrast to some other constitutional authorities like the **Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)**, who are expressly barred from holding further government posts.

18. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) is the central recruiting agency in India. It is an independent constitutional body in the sense that it has been directly created by the Constitution. **Articles 315 to 323 in Part XIV of the Constitution** contain elaborate provisions regarding the composition, appointment and removal of members along with the independence, powers and functions of the UPSC.

Statement 1 is incorrect: UPSC is **not concerned with the classification of services, pay and service conditions, cadre management, training, and so on.** These matters are handled by the Department of Personnel and Training—one of the three departments of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. Therefore, UPSC is **only a central recruiting agency while the Department of Personnel and Training is the central personnel agency in India.**

Statement 2 is correct: The additional functions relating to the services of the Union can be conferred on UPSC by the Parliament. It can also place the personnel system of any authority, corporate body or public institution within the jurisdiction of the UPSC. Hence the **jurisdiction of UPSC can be extended by an act made by the Parliament.**

Statement 3 is correct: UPSC is consulted on the matters related to personnel management and all matters relating to methods of recruitment to civil services and for civil posts.

The Supreme Court has held that if the **government fails to consult UPSC in the matters (mentioned above), the aggrieved public servant has no remedy in a court.** In other words, the court held that any irregularity in consultation with the UPSC or acting without consultation does not invalidate the decision of the government. Thus, the provision is directory and not mandatory. Similarly, the court held that a selection by the UPSC does not confer any right to the post upon the candidate.

19. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 280 of the Constitution of India provides for a **Finance Commission as a quasi-judicial body.** It is constituted by the president of India every fifth year or at such earlier time as he considers necessary. A quasi-judicial body is a type of administrative agency that has powers and procedures like those of a court of law but is not a court itself.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Finance commission submits its report to the president. He lays it before both the Houses of Parliament along with an explanatory memorandum as to the action taken on its recommendations. **However, this does not make it a quasi-judicial body.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The recommendations made by the Finance Commission are only of advisory nature and hence,

not binding on the government. The recommendations of the commission have no time for its implementation.

Statement 3 is correct: In carrying out its functions, the Finance Commission has the **powers of a civil court, and it can summon witnesses**, take evidence, and require the production of documents. This provision makes it a Quasi-Judicial body

20. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs) is a constitutional body in the sense that it is directly established by Article 338 of the Constitution. It consists of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson and three other members. They are appointed by the President by warrant under his hand and seal. Their conditions of service and tenure of office are also determined by the President.

Statements 1, 2 and 4 are correct: The functions of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes are:

(a) To **investigate and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional and other legal safeguards** for the SCs and to evaluate their working;

(b) To **inquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation of rights and safeguards** of the SCs;

(c) To participate and advise on the planning process of socio-economic development of the SCs and to evaluate the progress of their development under the Union or a state;

(d) To **present to the President, annually and at such other times as it may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards;**

(e) To make recommendations as to the measures that should be taken by the Union or a state for the effective implementation of those safeguards and other measures for the protection, welfare and socio-economic development of the SCs; and

(f) To discharge such other functions in relation to the protection, welfare and development and advancement of the SCs as the president may specify.

Statement 3 is incorrect: President by **public notification specify the castes, races or tribes or parts of or groups within castes, races or tribes which shall for the purposes of the Constitution** be deemed to be Scheduled Castes in relation to that State or Union Territory, as the case may be.

21. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The **Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities** is a constitutional post created under Article 350 B of the Indian Constitution. The primary responsibility of the Special Officer is to investigate and monitor the implementation of constitutional safeguards provided to linguistic minorities in India.

Statement 1 is correct: The Constitution of India, **originally, did not make any provision with respect to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.** Later, the States Reorganisation Commission (1953-55) made a recommendation in this regard. Accordingly, the Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act of 1956 inserted a new Article 350-B in Part XVII of the Constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities is **appointed by the President of India.** Constitution does not specify the qualifications, tenure, salaries and allowances, service conditions and procedure for removal of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.

Statement 3 is incorrect: This constitutional body of Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities falls under the Ministry of Minority Affairs (Not Home Ministry). The Special Officer submits the annual reports along with other reports to the President of India through the Union Minister of Minority Affairs.

22. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Article 324 of the Constitution has made the provisions to safeguard and ensure the independent and impartial functioning of the Election Commission.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Constitution has not prescribed the qualifications (legal, educational, administrative or judicial) of the members of the Election Commission. The **appointment of the chief election commissioner and other election commissioners are made by the president.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Constitution **has not debarred the retiring election commissioners** from any further appointment by the government.

Statement 3 is correct: The chief election commissioner is provided with the security of tenure. He **cannot be removed from his office except in same manner and on the same grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court.** In other words, he can be removed by the president based on a resolution passed to that effect by both the Houses of Parliament with special majority, either on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity. Thus, he does not hold his office till the pleasure of the president, though he is appointed by him.

Statement 4 is correct: According to the Constitution of India, the service conditions of the Chief **Election Commissioner (CEC) cannot be varied to his disadvantage** after his appointment. This provision is enshrined in Article 324(5) of the Constitution.

23. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The **Constitution of India (Article 243-I)** mandates that the **State Finance Commission (SFC) is constituted by the Governor of the respective state,** and it is to be set up in **every five years.** This provision was introduced through the **Seventy-Third Constitutional Amendment Act (1992),** which aimed to strengthen the decentralization of powers and resources to local bodies.

Statement 2 is correct: The primary function of the SFC is to recommend the distribution of financial resources between

the state and its local bodies (Panchayats and Municipalities). This includes **recommending the allocation of tax revenues,** duties, tolls and fees leviable by the State, **between the state and local bodies.** The SFC also recommends **grants-in-aid to the Local bodies from the Consolidated Fund of the State.**

Statement 3 is correct: The **recommendations made by the SFC are non-binding on the state government.** This means that while the state government is expected to consider these recommendations, it is not obligated to accept them.

24. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Attorney-General shall hold office during the pleasure of the President and shall receive such remuneration as the **President may determine. (Article 76)**

Statement 2 is correct. Attorney General has the **right to speak and to take part in the proceedings of both the houses of parliament, any joint sitting of Houses and any committee of the parliament of which he may be named a member,** but without a right to vote **(Article 88).**

Statement 3 is incorrect. The term of Office of Attorney General is not Fixed by the constitution. He **Holds office during the pleasure of the President.** Further, as per convention, he resigns when the government Resigns or is replaced.

Statement 4 is incorrect. Attorney General is **not a Full time** Counsel for the Government. Further he does not fall into the category of Government Servants. Also, he **is not debarred** from Private Practice.

25. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **State Public Service Commission (SPSC)** is a **constitutional body** that **conducts exams for state service appointments. Article 315 to 323 in part XIV** of the constitution deal with the various **provisions of SPSC.** The SPSC also advises the government on disciplinary actions and promotions.

Statement 1 is correct: The **recommendations** made by the **State Public Service Commissions** (SPSC) are **advisory in nature.** This means that the **state government can accept or reject the advice.** The government can also make rules that regulate the scope of the advisory functions.

Statement 2 is correct: Although the **chairman and members of a SPSC** are **appointed** by the **governor,** they can be **removed only by the president.** The President can also remove the Chairman or any other member of the SPSC for misbehavior after the Supreme Court has been consulted.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The entire **expense including the salaries, allowances and pensions of the chairman and members of a SPSC** are **charged on the consolidated fund of the state.** They **are not subject to a vote of the state legislature.**

Important Tips

1) Under the provisions of the Constitution, the advice tendered by the Supreme Court to the President (regarding **removal the chairman or any other member of SPSC for misbehavior)** is binding on the President.
2) The Chairman and other members of the SPSC occupy the office for 6 years or till they reach 62 years. They can resign by writing to the governor and be removed by the president before their term expires.

26. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Election Commission of India, an autonomous constitutional body, oversees the conduct of elections in the country. Established in 1950, it ensures fair, free, and transparent electoral processes. Article 324 of the Constitution provides that the power of superintendence, direction and control of elections to parliament, state legislatures, the office of president of India and the office of vice-president of India shall be vested in the election commission.

Statement 1 is correct: The Election Commission of India holds the authority to cancel or countermand polls in cases of rigging or booth capturing. This measure is taken to ensure the integrity and fairness of the electoral process.

Statement 2 is correct: The Election Commission advises the Governor on matters concerning the disqualification of members of state legislatures. If a question arises regarding the disqualification of a member, the Governor is required to obtain the opinion of the Election Commission, and they act based on that advice.

Statement 3 is incorrect: While the Election Commission of India does oversee the registration of political parties and their adherence to specified criteria, it doesn't have the direct authority to de-register them. The Election Commission has been seeking this power for a long time.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The identification of reserved seats falls under the purview of the Delimitation Commission, which operates independently of the Election Commission. Delimitation is guided by Article 82 and the Delimitation Commission Act, 2002. **According to Article 82,** upon the completion of each census, the allocation of seats in the House of the People to the States and the division of each State into territorial constituencies shall be readjusted by such authority and in such manner as Parliament may by law determine. This includes the identification of reserved seats for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe also. The Parliament has allocated this work to the Delimitation Commission of India.

27. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. Original constitution of India did not provide for special officer for linguistic minorities it was

added by the 7th constitutional amendment act in 1956 under Article 350-B under part XVII of the Indian Constitution.

Statement 2 is correct. Special officer linguistic minorities shall report President upon matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities under the Constitution at such interval as president may direct and the President shall cause all such reports to be laid before each House of Parliament and send to the Governments of the States concerned.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Constitution of India **does not provide** for qualification, tenure, salaries and allowances etc. along with procedure for removal of special officer for linguistic minorities.

28. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Goods & Services Tax (GST) Council was established by the President as per Article 279A (1) of the Constitution. The council was established after passing the **Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016** by the Parliament and more than 15 states of India.

Statement 1 is correct: The Union Finance Minister is the chairperson of this council. Members of this council are the Union Minister of State, in-charge of Revenue of finance and the Minister of finance for state governments or any other Minister nominated by each State Governments.

Statement 2 is correct: The GST council decides the GST rate on various goods and services. Every decision of the GST Council has to be taken by a **majority of not less than three-fourths of the weighted votes of the members present.** The vote of the Central government has a weightage of one-third of the total votes cast, and the votes of all the State governments taken together have a weightage of two-thirds of the total votes cast in the meeting.

29. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 148 of the Indian Constitution establishes the autonomous position of the **Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India**, who leads the Indian Audit and Accounts Department.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The salary and allowances of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) are **determined by Parliament** (not by the President of India) and are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India.

Statement 2 is correct: The procedure for the removal of the CAG is similar to that of a judge of the Supreme Court. It requires a resolution passed by both Houses of Parliament with a special majority and on grounds of proved misbehavior or incapacity.

Statement 3 is correct: After ceasing to hold office as CAG, the individual is **not eligible for any further office under the Government of India or any state.**

Statement 4 is correct: The administrative expenses of the office of the CAG are indeed **charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India,** and they are not subject to parliamentary vote.

30. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The **State Election Commissions (SECs)** are constitutional bodies established under **Articles 243K and 243ZA** of the Indian Constitution after the **73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments (1992).** They are responsible for conducting elections to **Panchayati Raj Institutions** and **Urban Local Bodies** in the states.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **State Election Commissioner is appointed by the Governor of the state, not by the Chief Election Commissioner of India.** Furthermore, once appointed, the State Election Commissioner enjoys the security of tenure and **can only be removed in the manner and on the grounds prescribed for a High Court judge,** ensuring autonomy.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The functions of delimitation, reservation, and rotation of seats should be vested in a Delimitation Commission and not in the State Election Commission. The **Supreme Court in Vikas Kishanrao Gawali v. State of Maharashtra (2021)** emphasized that entrusting these functions solely to the State Election Commission could lead to arbitrariness and political manipulation. Delegating such responsibilities to an independent Delimitation Commission ensures transparency, fairness, and adherence to constitutional principles in local body elections.

8.2. Non-Constitutional Bodies

31. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **National Human Rights Commission** (NHRC) is **the watchdog of human rights in the country**, that is, the rights relating to life, liberty, equality and dignity of the individual guaranteed by the Constitution or embodied in international covenants and enforceable by courts in India.

It was **established in conformity with the Paris Principles** drafted in 1991 at the first international workshop on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights held in Paris and adopted in 1993 .

Statement 1 is correct: The **NHRC is a statutory body** (and not a constitutional body), **established in 1993 under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The NHRC is a multi-member body comprising **a chairperson and five members.** The **chairperson must be a retired Chief Justice of India or a Supreme Court judge**. The members include a serving or retired Supreme Court judge, a serving or retired Chief Justice of a High Court, and three individuals with expertise or practical experience in human rights, with at least one being a woman.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The **NHRC does not have the power** to punish violators of human rights or **to award relief, including monetary compensation, to victims.** The functions of the NHRC are primarily recommendatory in nature, its recommendations are not binding on the concerned government or authority.

NHRC can recommend to the concerned Government or authority **for the grant of such immediate interim relief** to the victim or the members of his family as the Commission may consider necessary.

Statement 4 is correct: The **chairperson and members** of the NHRC serve a term of **three years** or until they reach the age of **70 years**, whichever is earlier. They are **eligible for reappointment**. However, after their tenure, they are **not eligible for further employment under the Central or state governments.**

32. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (NCMEI) is a statutory body established by the **National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act (NCMEI Act), 2004.** It aims to safeguard and promote the educational rights of religious and linguistic minorities as per Article 30(1) of the Constitution.

Article 30(1) of the Constitution of India provides for linguistic and religious minorities a fundamental right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As per a judgement of the Supreme court, the Commission has both original as well as appellate jurisdiction. **No court (except the Supreme Court and a High Court** exercising jurisdiction under articles 226 and 227 of the Constitution) shall entertain any suit, application or other proceedings in respect of any order made by the Commission.

Statement 3 is correct: The Commission may, after giving a reasonable opportunity of being heard to a Minority Educational Institution to which minority status has been granted by an authority or Commission, as the case may be, **cancel such status under the following circumstances, namely:-** (a) if the constitution, aims and objects of the educational institution, which has enabled it to obtain minority status has subsequently been amended in such a way that it no longer reflects the purpose or character of a Minority Educational Institution;

(b) if, on verification of the records during the inspection or investigation, it is found that the Minority Educational Institution has failed to admit students belonging to the minority community in the institution as per rules and prescribed percentage governing admissions during any academic year.

33. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Solicitor General of India is the second-highest law officer in the country, below the Attorney General of India, and plays a crucial role in representing the Government of India in courts.

Statement 1 is correct: The office of the Solicitor **General is not a constitutional post**. It is a position created to assist the Attorney General of India, as specified under executive arrangements. Only the office of the Attorney General is created by the Constitution. The Solicitor General's office is statutory and established under the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961.

Statement 2 is correct: Solicitor General of India **assists the Attorney General in carrying out their official duties**, essentially acting as the second-highest law officer in the country and supporting the Attorney General in legal matters.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The **Solicitor General of India does not hold** the same rank as the Cabinet Secretary in the Table of Precedence. Infact, S/he holds the 23rd rank in the Table of Precedence with other dignitaries.

The Attorney General of India holds the same rank (11th) as the Cabinet Secretary in the Table of Precedence.

34. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Central Information Commission has been constituted with effect from 12-10-2005 under the Right to Information Act, 2005. The jurisdiction of the Commission extends over all Central Public Authorities. The Central Information Commission consists of a Chief Information Commissioner and not more than ten Information Commissioners.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Chief Information Commissioner is appointed by the **President on the recommendation of a committee** consisting of the Prime Minister as Chairperson, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister. But the Chief Information Commissioner is not appointed by the warrant under name and seal of the President of India.

Statement 2 is correct: The term of office for CIC members is **determined by the Central Government or until they reach the age of 65 years**, whichever is earlier, as per the RTI Amendment Act, 2019.

Statement 3 is incorrect: According to the Right to Information Act 2005, the Chief Information Commissioner or an Information Commissioner shall not be a Member of Parliament or Member of the Legislature of any State or Union territory, as the case may be, or hold any other office of profit or connected with any political party or carrying on any business or pursuing any profession. So, the statement is incorrect.

The members of CIC shall be persons of eminence in public life with wide knowledge and experience in law, science and technology, social service, management, journalism, mass media, or administration and governance.

35. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

To address the increasing rate of corruption, the Government of India established a high-power committee in 1962, chaired by K. Santhanam. The Santhanam Committee recommended the establishment of Vigilance Commissions at both the central and state levels to deal with corruption cases. Based on this committee recommendation, Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) was established in 1964.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Central Vigilance Commission was established in 1964 through an executive resolution. At that time, it was neither constitutional nor statutory body. However, **it became a statutory body later under the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003** which serves as the source of its powers.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As the Designated Agency, **the CVC is responsible for receiving written complaints or disclosures regarding allegations of corruption or misuse of office by any employee of the Central Government,** or by employees of corporations, government companies, societies, or local authorities established or controlled by the Central Government. **The jurisdiction of the CVC does not extend to the State governments.**

Important Tips

The acts relevant to Central Vigilance Commission (CVC):

- The Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003: It established the CVC as an independent statutory body and provided the composition, functions, and powers of CVC to combat corruption in public administration
- Under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) supervises corruption investigations in government agencies. It is empowered to refer cases to the Central Vigilance Officers (CVOs) of respective departments or to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for further action.
- The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013: The act empowers the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) to investigate matters referred by the Lokpal concerning Group 'B', 'C', and 'D' employees of the central government, as well as officials and staff of corporations, companies, societies, and local authorities owned by the central government.
- Whistleblower Protection Act 2014 provides for the protection of the identity of the whistleblowers. Under the act , a person can make a public interest disclosure on corruption before the CVC.

36. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was set up in 1963 by a resolution of the Ministry of Home Affairs based on the recommendation of Santhanam committee. This premier investigating police agency of India later was transferred to Department of Personnel, Ministry of Personnel, Pension & Public Grievances, Government of India. It was initially mandated to investigate cases of bribery and corruption and now evolved into a multi-faceted and multi-disciplinary premier Investigating and Prosecuting Agency of the Government of India.

Statement I is incorrect: Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) generally requires the consent of the concerned state government to investigate crimes within that state. This is in line with the principle of federalism in India. A state government can grant consent to the CBI in two forms: case-specific or general. General consent allows the CBI to operate freely within the state, while without it, the CBI must seek case-by-case approval before proceeding with an investigation.

However, the Supreme Court and High Courts, can order CBI to investigate such a crime anywhere in the country without the consent of the State.

Statement II is correct: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) derives its investigative authority from the Delhi Special Police Establishment (DSPE) Act, 1946. According to Section 6 of the Act, **the CBI can investigate offences in states only if the concerned state government grants its consent.**

37. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Lokpal was created under the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act of 2013. It is an anti-corruption ombudsman body setup at national level to investigate corruption allegations against wide range of public servants. Its jurisdiction extents to Prime Minister, Ministers, Members of Parliament and public servants from all groups (A, B, C, and D) and officials of central government.

The President of India appoints the chairperson and members of Lokapal after receiving recommendations from a Selection committee, as per the Act.

The Selection Committee consist of **the Prime Minister as chairperson, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha (but not home minister),** the Chief Justice of India or a sitting Supreme Court Judge nominated by the Chief Justice of India and an eminent jurist to be nominated by the President of India on the basis of recommendations of the first four members of the selection committee.

Important Tips

The Lokpal is multimember body that consist of a chairperson with maximum of eight members out of which :

- 50% must be judicial members, who are either former judges of the Supreme Court or former Chief Justices of High Courts.
- At least 50% of the members (including the Chairperson) must belong to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, minorities, and women.

38. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Disaster Management Act of 2005 provided for the establishment of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) as an apex body at the national level to lay down the policies, plans and guidelines for Disaster Management.

Statement 1 is correct: The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), as per the Disaster Management Act of 2005, **consists of the Chairperson and up to nine members.** The **Prime Minister of India serves as the ex officio Chairperson of the Authority**, and the other members are nominated by the Chairperson.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The NDMA operates under the administrative control of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, not the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Statement 3 is correct: The NDMA, as the apex body for comprehensive disaster management in the country, performs various functions, including **exercising general superintendence, direction, and control over the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).** NDRF is a specialized force in India created for disaster management tasked with responding to both natural and man-made disasters in India.

39. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Bar Council of India is a statutory body created by Parliament to regulate and represent the Indian Bar. It performs the regulatory function by prescribing standards of professional conduct and etiquette and by exercising disciplinary jurisdiction over the Bar.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Bar Council of India (BCI) was **established under** a legislation enacted by the Parliament, namely, the **Advocates Act of 1961**. Hence, it is **a statutory body** (however, it is not a constitutional body).

Statement 2 is correct: The BCI consists of the elected members as well as the ex-officio members. This includes:

- The **Attorney-General of India** and the Solicitor General of India are the **ex-officio members.**
- One member is to be elected by each State Bar Council (SBC) from amongst its members. The term of office of a member of the BCI, elected by an SBC, shall be for the period for which he/she holds office as a member of that SBC.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The BCI shall have a **Chairman** and a Vice-Chairman. They are **elected by the Council from amongst its members.** They hold office for a period of two years.

40. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Delimitation Commission is **a statutory body** established by the Central Government under the provisions of a law enacted by the Parliament. So far, four such Commissions have been constituted.

The **Delimitation Commission of India is responsible for deciding the number of seats reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes,** wherever their population is relatively large. It redraws the boundaries of the State Legislative Assembly and Lok Sabha constituencies to reflect changes in population.

- Articles 81 (Composition of Lok Sabha), 82 (Re-adjustment after Census), 170 (Composition of State Assemblies), 330 (Reservation of Seats for SCs/STs in Lok Sabha), and 332 (Reservation of Seats for SCs/STs in State Assemblies) of the Constitution of India deal with the limitation of the Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies.
- The **Commission is appointed by the President of India** and comprises a retired judge of the Supreme Court or a high court, the Chief Election Commissioner and the State Election Commissioner.

41. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog was established in 2015 to replace the erstwhile Planning Commission. It designs strategic and long-term policies and programes for the Government of India. It includes a Governing Council, various Regional Councils and specialized wings (Research Wing, Consultancy Wing and Team India Wing). for the Government of India. It includes a Governing Council, various Regional Councils and specialized wings (Research Wing, Consultancy Wing and Team India Wing).

Statement 1 is correct: The **Prime Minister of India serves as the Chairperson of NITI Aayog.**

Statement 2 is correct: The **Governing Council** of NITI Aayog **comprises the Chief Ministers of all the States,** Chief Ministers of Union Territories with Legislatures (i.e., Delhi, Puducherry and Jammu and Kashmir) and Lt. Governors of other Union Territories.

The Governing Council embodies the objectives of cooperative federalism and is a platform to discuss inter-sectoral, inter-departmental and federal issues to accelerate the implementation of the national development agenda.

Statement 3 is correct: The **Vice-Chairperson** of NITI Aayog **holds a rank equivalent to that of a Cabinet Minister.** He/she is appointed by the Prime Minister. The full-time members enjoy the rank of a Minister of State.

42. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

The Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013 provided for the establishment of Lokpal for the Union and Lokayukta for States. The Act allows setting up of anti-corruption ombudsman called Lokpal at the Centre and Lokayukta at the State-level. They perform the function of an "ombudsman" and inquire into allegations of corruption against certain public functionaries and for related matters.

Statement 1 is correct: The office of Lokpal and Lokayukta in India resembles to the institution of Ombudsman in Scandinavian countries. The term Lokpal is a Sanskrit word; 'Lok' means 'People' and 'pala' means 'Protector'. The term was coined as an Indian variant of the concept of 'Ombudsman', which has a Scandinavian origin and refers to an official who is appointed to invesgate complaints of cizens against the administraon.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As per the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act, 2013, **every state has the autonomy to frame their own laws, thus the Lokayukta's powers vary from state to state** on various aspects, such as tenure, and the need for sanction to prosecute officials. Some states such as Rajasthan, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra have created the Lokayukta as well as Up-Lokayukta, while some other states have created only the Lokayukta.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Prime Minister of India has been brought under the purview of the Lokpal with subject matter exclusions and specific process for handling complaints against the Prime Minister. The Lokpal has jurisdiction to inquire into allegations of corruption against anyone who is or has been **Prime Minister, or a Minister in the Union government, or a Member of Parliament.**

43. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Lokpal is a **statutory anti-corruption authority** in India, established under the **Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013,** to investigate corruption allegations against certain public functionaries.

Section 14 of the Act defines the jurisdiction of the Lokpal in India.

Option 1 is correct. Any person who is or has been a Prime Minister comes under the jurisdiction of the Lokpal in India. However, the Lokpal shall not inquire into any matter against the Prime Minister in so far as it relates to international relations, external and internal security, public order, atomic energy and space.

Option 2 is correct. The Minister of a Union Government comes under the jurisdiction of the Lokpal in India. Even members of the Parliament are included under the jurisdiction.

Option 3 is incorrect. The Chief Justice of India does not come under the jurisdiction of the Lokpal in India. This is one of the limitations in the powers of the Lokpal.

Option 4 is correct. Group D officer in the Government of India, when serving or who has served in connection with the affairs of the Union subject, comes under the jurisdiction of the Lokpal in India.

44. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Prime Minister's National Relief Fund: Established in 1948 and headed by the Prime Minister of India. It operates from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and is administered on an Honorary basis by the Joint Secretary to the Prime Minister as Secretary of the fund.

It is used for immediate relief to families of those killed in natural calamities like floods, cyclones and earthquakes, etc. and to the victims of the major accidents and riots.

Important Tips

Features of Prime Minister's National Relief Fund:

- Consists entirely of public contributions and does not get any budgetary support.
- Recognized as a Trust under the Income Tax Act. Exempt under the Income Tax Act, 1961 under Section 10 and 139 for return purposes.

45. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Consumer Protection Act, 2019, provides a **three-tier quasi-judicial mechanism** for redressal of consumer disputes namely district commissions, state commissions and national commission.

Statement 1 is correct : The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) is a **statutory body** established under the **Consumer Protection Act, 1986.** It functions as the apex consumer dispute redressal forum in India.The NCDRC is now governed by the **Consumer Protection Act, 2019, which replaced the 1986 Act.**

Statement 2 is correct : NCDRC handles consumer disputes involving **claims of more than ₹2 crore as per revised rules under Consumer Protection Act.**

The revised pecuniary jurisdiction for entertaining consumer complaints under **Consumer Protection (Jurisdiction of the District Commission, the State Commission and the National Commission) Rules, 2021** shall be:

1. **District Commissions** shall have jurisdiction to entertain complaints where value of the goods or services paid as consideration **does not exceed 50 lakh rupees.**
2. **State Commissions** shall have jurisdiction to entertain complaints where value of the goods or services paid as consideration **exceeds 50 lakh rupees but does not exceed 2 crore rupees.**
3. **National Commission shall have jurisdiction to entertain complaints where value of the goods or services paid as consideration exceeds 2 crore rupees.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: Section 23 of Consumer Protection Act, 1986, provides that any person aggrieved by an order of National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, may prefer an **appeal against such order to the Supreme Court of India within a period of 30 days.**

46. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Row 1 is incorrect: The Central Vigilance Commission is a **statutory body** established under the **Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003.**However, its members are not directly appointed by the Central Government.The **President** appoints the members **based on the recommendation of a committee comprising:**The Prime Minister (Chairperson), The Minister of Home Affairs, The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha.

Row 2 is correct: The Central Information Commission is a **statutory body** established under the **Right to Information Act, 2005.**Its members, including the Chief Information Commissioner, are appointed by the **President of India**. The **selection committee** recommending the appointments consists of:

The Prime Minister, The Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, A Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister.

Row 3 is incorrect:A Joint Public Service Commission is a body established by an **Act of Parliament.It is statutory body and not a Constitutional** one.It is formed for two or more states by the President on request of the concerned states.Its members, including the chairman, are appointed by the **President**.

47. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is a **statutory body** established under the **NIA Act, 2008.**It functions as India's **premier counter-terrorism law enforcement agency.**It has jurisdiction over scheduled offences, including cases related to terrorism, arms smuggling, and organized crime.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The NIA **does not require prior approval** from the state government before initiating investigations.Under the NIA (Amendment) Act, 2019, the agency **has jurisdiction across India**, and it can **register cases and conduct investigations without the consent of the respective state government.**

Statement 3 is correct: The NIA investigates and prosecutes cases related to **Terrorism,Human trafficking, Counterfeit currency,** Cybercrime and Organized crime.The **NIA (Amendment) Act, 2019** expanded its jurisdiction to include **Human trafficking, Offences under the Explosives Act, and Cyberterrorism.**

48. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Thc **National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)** is a **statutory body** established under the **Commission for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005.** It aims to protect, promote, and defend child rights in India, ensuring the welfare of children under 18 years of age. The NCPCR monitors the implementation of child-related laws such as the RTE Act, 2009 and the POCSO Act, 2012.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) **does not establish special courts under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.**

The **state governments, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the respective High Court,** are responsible for setting up **special POCSO courts.**The NCPCR's role is limited to **monitoring the implementation of the POCSO Act.**

Statement 2 is correct: The NCPCR is empowered to **examine, review, and monitor the safeguards** provided **under the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: The NCPCR **does not monitor or regulate the State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA). Infact,** SARA functions under the **Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA),** which is the apex body for adoption in India. **CARA coordinates with State Governments or the State Adoption Resource Agencies and advises them in adoption related matters.**

Statement 4 is correct: The NCPCR is responsible for **monitoring Child Care Institutions (CCIs) under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.**

It conducts **inspections, audits, and assessments** of CCIs to:

1. Ensure compliance with child protection norms.
2. Identify and address cases of abuse or negligence.
3. Ensure proper care and rehabilitation of children in CCIs.

49. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Bar Council of India (BCI) is a **statutory body** established under the **Advocates Act, 1961,** responsible for regulating the **legal profession and legal education** in India. It sets standards of professional conduct, enforces disciplinary rules, and grants recognition to law colleges.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Bar Council of India (BCI) consists of members **elected (not nominated) from the State Bar Councils, not appointed by nomination.** Each State Bar Council elects one member to represent it in the BCI. The members from the State Bar Councils are elected for a **period of five years.**

Statement 2 is correct: The **Attorney General** of India and the **Solicitor General** of India are **ex-officio members of the BCI.**

Statement 3 is correct: The BCI has the power to **frame rules and regulations regarding legal education in India.** It sets the standards for **law University recognition, accreditation, curriculum, and infrastructure requirements.** It also has the authority to derecognize law colleges failing to meet the prescribed standards.

50. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Central Pay Commission (CPC) is established by the Government of India to review and recommend changes to the salary structures of central government employees and pensioners.The **Chairman and members of the Central Pay Commission** are **appointed by the Prime Minister** of India.

Statement 2 is incorrect. As of **2025, seven** Central Pay Commissions have been constituted:

1. 1st CPC – 1946
2. 2nd CPC – 1957

3. 3rd CPC – 1970
4. 4th CPC – 1983
5. 5th CPC – 1994
6. 6th CPC – 2006
7. 7th CPC – 2014
8. **The 8th CPC has been announced but not yet constituted. The announcement about the 8th pay commission was made on January 17 2025 but not yet official constituted.**

Eg. The 7th Pay commission was approved on September 25, 2013, and officially constituted on February 28, 2014.

The 6th Pay Commission was announced in July 2006 and formally constituted in October 2006.

The 5th Pay Commission was declared in April 1994 and established in June 1994.

Thus 8th pay commission once official constituted it will be 8th Pay commission.

51. Solution: (c)

Exp) option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **Law Commission is a non-statutory body** (not created by an act of Parliament) formed by the Union Ministry of Law and Justice through a gazette notification to help the government **review functioning of laws, suggest repealing of obsolete legislation, and make recommendations on matters referred to it** by the government.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Law commission of India usually serves for a three-year term. The commission is usually chaired by a retired judge of the Supreme Court or a High Court. The commission has a full-time chairperson, four full-time members including a member-secretary, not more than five part-time members, and the secretaries of the Legal Affairs and Legislative departments as ex officio members.

Statement 3 is correct: Till now, 23 Law commissions have been notified since Independence. The government recently released the notification for the establishment of the 23rd Law Commission.

52. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Press Council of India (PCI) was first established in 1966** under the **Indian Press Council Act, 1965,** following the recommendations of the First Press Commission. However, the Council was dissolved during the Emergency in 1975, and a new Act, the Press Council Act, 1978, re-established the PCI in 1979.

Statement 1 is correct: The **Press Council of India is a statutory quasi-judicial autonomous authority** re-established in 1979 under an Act of Parliament, **Press Council Act, 1978.** It was re-established with the **two fold objects** of preserving the freedom of the press by maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and the news agencies in India.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The **Council consists of a Chairman and 28 members,** including journalists, media owners, and representatives from Parliament, education, law, and literature. The **Chairman has, by convention, been a retired judge of the Supreme Court** who is **nominated by a Committee consisting of a Chairman of** the Council of States **(Rajya Sabha), Speaker of** the House of People **(Lok Sabha) and a person elected amongst themselves by the 28 members** of the Council.

Statement 3 is correct: PCI discharges its functions primarily through adjudications on complaint cases received by it, either against the Press for violation of journalistic ethics or by the Press for interference with its freedom. Where the Council is satisfied, after inquiry, that a newspaper or a news agency has offended against the standards of journalistic ethics or public taste or that an editor or working journalist has committed any professional misconduct, the Council may warn, admonish or censure them or disapprove of their conduct. The **decisions of the Council are final and cannot be questioned in any court of law.**

53. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Competition Commission of India (CCI) is a statutory body under **Competition Act of 2002.** The Competition Act, 2002 was passed by the Parliament in the year 2002, to which the President accorded assent in January 2003. It was subsequently amended by the Competition (Amendment) Act, 2007. In accordance with the provisions of the Amendment Act the commission became fully functional in 2009.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Commission comprises a chairperson and six Members who are appointed by the Central Government. Functioning as a quasi-judicial entity, it provides opinions to statutory authorities and handles various cases. Both the Chairperson and other Members serve as full-time members.

Statement 3 is incorrect: CCI can impose penalties directly on private companies. Recently the Competition Commission of India (CCI) issued two distinct orders against the technology giant Google, imposing penalties of INR 1,337 crore and INR 937 crore, totaling INR 2,237 crore, for its abuse of dominant market position. Alongside the penalties, CCI outlined a set of corrective measures for Google to adhere to.

Important Tips

A company which holds a dominant market position has the capability to work independently from its competitors and customers. A dominant position can allow a company to set prices above the competitive level for products which are not of as high quality, and in effect it can restrict competition. A company which holds a dominant market position has the capability to work independently from its competitors and customers. A dominant position can allow a company to set prices above the competitive level for products which are not of as high quality, and in effect it can restrict competition.

54. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), India is a **quasi-judicial commission** in India which was set up in 1988 under the **Consumer Protection Act of 1986. Hence it is a statutory body not executive.**

Option b is incorrect: The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) was constituted in the year 1988. It is headed by a sitting or a retired Judge of the Hon'ble **Supreme Court of India or a sitting or a retired Chief Justice of an Hon'ble High court.**

Option c is incorrect: The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) provides **inexpensive**, speedy and summary redressal of consumer disputes. **It's not free of cost.**

Option d is correct: No complaints under the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) **can be filed for alleged deficiency in any service that is rendered free of charge** or under a contract of personal service.

A contract of personal service is a legal agreement between two parties where one party agrees to provide a service to the other party for a fee. The service is usually performed by the individual personally, and it cannot be delegated to another person. This service provided cannot be called in question infront of the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC).

55. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **Directorate of Enforcement (ED)** is a **domestic law enforcement** and **economic intelligence agency** in India. The ED's **responsibilities** include **enforcing economic laws** and **fighting economic crimes**.

Statement 1 is correct: The Directorate of Enforcement was established in the year 1956 with its Headquarters at New Delhi. It is responsible for enforcement of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA) and certain provisions under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. Work relating to investigation and prosecution of cases under the PML has been entrusted to the Enforcement Directorate. **The Directorate is under the administrative control of the Department of Revenue for operational purposes;** the policy aspects of the FEMA, its legislation and its amendments are within the purview of the Department of Economic Affairs. Policy issues pertaining to the PML Act, however, are the responsibility of the Department of Revenue. Before FEMA became effective (1 June 2000), the Directorate enforced regulations under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

Statement 2 is correct: The PMLA allows the ED to make arrests without mandatorily providing a copy of the Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) to the accused. Upholding this provision, the Supreme Court said that an ECIR is an internal document of the agency and not required to be supplied to an accused mandatorily. Relying on principles of natural justice, petitioners had challenged this provision allowing non-supply of ECIR to the accused.

In December 2023, the Supreme Court clarified that the **Enforcement Directorate (ED) does not need to provide the grounds of detention to the accused in writing at the time of arrest.** The ED can provide the grounds orally, but it must do so within 24 hours of the arrest.

Statement 3 is correct: In its recent verdict, the Supreme Court of India noted that probe agencies like the ED, Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) and Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) are not "police", and therefore, statements recorded by them during inquiry are valid evidence.

Supreme Court said that "ED officials are not police officers under CrPC. Statements recorded before ED officials are valid as evidence,".

56. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was created through an executive resolution in 1963, thus not a Statutory body. However, CBI derives its power and functions from the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.

Statement 2 is correct: The superintendence of CBI related to investigation of offenses under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 lies with the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC). In other matters, the superintendence lies with the Department of Personnel & Training (DOPT) in the Ministry of Personnel, Pension & Grievances.

Statement 3 is incorrect: As per section 2 of the DSPE Act, CBI can suo-moto take up investigation of offenses notified in section 3 only in the Union Territories. Taking up **investigation by CBI in the boundaries of a state requires prior consent of that state** as per Section 6 of the DSPE Act. The Supreme Court and High Courts, however, can order CBI to investigate such a crime anywhere in the country without the consent of the state.

Important Tips

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was set up in 1963 by a resolution of the **Ministry of Home Affairs.** Later, it was **transferred to the Ministry of Personnel,** Pension & Grievances and now it enjoys the status of an attached office. Hence the CBI is functioning under the Ministry of Personnel, Pension & Grievances (not Ministry of Home Affairs).

57. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) was established in 1993, under the provisions

of the Protection of Human Rights Act. The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) consists of a chairperson, five full-time Members and seven deemed Members. The statute lays down qualifications for the appointment of the Chairperson and Members of the Commission. The **retired**

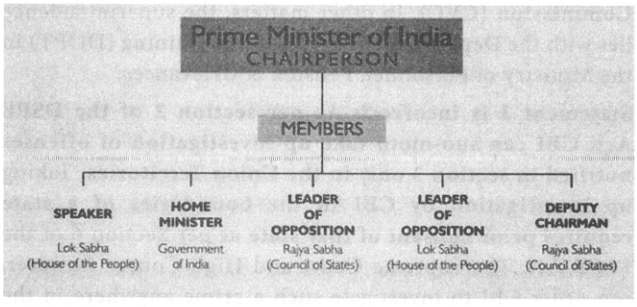
Chief Justice of India or a judge of the Supreme Court serves as the

Chairperson of NHRC and its **members** are as follows:

1) one Member who is, or has been, a Judge of the Supreme Court
2) one Member who is, or has been the Chief Justice of a High Court
3) three Members, to be appointed from amongst persons having knowledge and practical experience in matters of human rights, one of whom shall be a woman.

The Chairpersons of the National Commission of Backward Classes, the National Commission for Minorities, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, the National Commission for Scheduled Castes, the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes; the National Commission for Women and the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disability **shall be deemed to be Members of the Commission for the discharge of all functions except judicial functions.**

The Chairperson and members of the National Human Rights Commission are appointed by the President on the **recommendation of a committee consisting of the Prime Minister (Chairperson of this committee), the Union Home Minister, the Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha** and Lok Sabha, **the Speaker of the Lok Sabha**, and the Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha. The below figure represents the composition of this selection committee.



Thus, **the Chief Justice of India and the Chairperson of Rajya Sabha are not included as members of the committee** responsible for recommending Chairperson and members of the NHRC to the President of India. It must be noted here that **the Vice President of India is the ex-officio chairperson of the Rajya Sabha.**

58. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Directorate of Enforcement or the ED is a multi-disciplinary organization mandated with investigation of economic crimes and violations of foreign exchange laws.

Statement 1 is incorrect: ED is not a statutory body, rather a premier financial investigative agency of the Government of India. It was earlier established as an **'Enforcement Unit'** to handle Exchange Control Laws violations under **Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA), 1947. Later** in the year 1957, this Unit was **renamed as 'Enforcement Directorate'.**

Statement 2 is correct: ED is under the administrative control of Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India. It was established on 1st May, 1956, when an 'Enforcement Unit' was formed in the Department of Economic Affairs for handling Exchange Control Laws violations under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1947 (FERA '47). **In 1960, the administrative control of the Directorate was transferred from the Department of Economic Affairs to the Department of Revenue.**

Statement 3 is correct: ED cannot take an action Suo motu. One has to complain to any other agency or Police first and then ED will investigate the matter and will identify the accused.

Statement 4 is correct: The statutory functions of the Directorate include enforcement of following Acts:

1) **The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA):** It is a criminal law enacted to prevent money laundering and to provide for confiscation of property derived from, or involved in, money-laundering.
2) **The Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA):** It is a civil law enacted to consolidate and amend the laws relating to foreign exchange market in India.
3) **The Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 (FEOA):** This law was enacted to deter economic offenders from evading the process of Indian law by remaining outside the jurisdiction of Indian courts.
4) **The Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 (FERA)**
5) **Sponsoring agency under COFEPOSA**: Under this Directorate is empowered to sponsor cases of preventive detention with regard to contraventions of FEMA.

59. Solution: (a)

Exp) option a is the correct answer

The **Central Information Commission (CIC)** is a pivotal **statutory body** in India, established under the **Right to Information Act (RTI) of 2005.** It plays an essential role in ensuring transparency and accountability in the working of public authorities.

1) **Composition:** It consists of a Chief Information **Commissioner (CIC) and not more than ten Information Commissioners (ICs)**
2) **Appointment:** The **President of India** appoints the CIC and ICs based on the recommendations of a committee comprising the **Prime Minister as Chairperson**, the **Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha**, and a **Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister**
3) **Eligibility:** Members should be eminent persons with wide knowledge and experience in law, science and technology, social service, management, journalism, mass media, or administration and governance. They should not be MPs, MLAs, hold any other office of profit, be connected with any political party, or carry on any business or profession

Statement 1 is incorrect:

1) The **RTI Amendment Act 2019** brought a significant **change to the way the salaries and allowances of the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and Information Commissioners (ICs) are determined.**

2) **Prior to the amendment**, these were equated with the salaries of the **Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners** and were decided by the Parliament.

3) However, **the amendment gave the Central Government the authority to prescribe the salaries, allowances, and other terms of service of the CIC and ICs.**

4) This means that the **Central Government now has the power to decide these** without requiring the matter to be placed before the Parliament

Statement 2 is incorrect:

Imposition of Penalty;

1) **Section 20 of the RTI act, 2005 empowers the CIC to impose penalties on Public Information Officers (PIOs).**

2) If a PIO has refused to accept an application, not furnished information within the specified time, or malafidely denied the request for information, the CIC can impose a penalty.

3) The penalty is Rs. 250 per day during which the failure continues, subject to a maximum of Rs. 25,000.

Disciplinary action against PIO;

1) The **CIC also has the authority to recommend disciplinary action against the PIO** to the concerned authority

Statement 3 is correct:

1) The **RTI Amendment Act 2019 removed the fixed tenure of five years** for the CIC and ICs as prescribed in the original RTI Act.

2) Instead, it gave the **Central Government the discretion to specify the term of office** for the CIC and ICs

3) By using this power, **the Central Government has notified a term of office of three years** for both CIC as well as ICs.

60. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Statement 1 is correct: The **Lokpal's jurisdiction extends to any person who is or has been a chairperson or member or officer or employee** in any body or Board or corporation or authority or company or society or trust or autonomous body (by whatever name called) established by an Act of Parliament or **wholly or partly financed by the Central Government** or controlled by it.

The Lokpal can inquire into allegations of corruption against a wide range of individuals and bodies, including:

1) The **Prime Minister**, but with certain exclusions related to international relations, security, public order, atomic energy, and space.

2) Ministers in the Union government and Members of Parliament.

3) Officials of the Union Government across all groups: A, B, C, and D.

4) Chairpersons, members, officers, and directors of any board, corporation, society, trust, or autonomous body established by an Act of Parliament or partly funded by the Union or State government.

5) Any society or trust or body that receives a foreign contribution above ₹10 lakh.

Statement 2 is correct: The **Lokpal has been granted the authority of superintendence and directions over any investigation agency, including the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), for cases that are referred to them by the Lokpal.** This power of superintendence is crucial as it allows the Lokpal to ensure that investigations are conducted without undue influence and are based solely on merit

Statement 3 is correct: One of the significant powers of the **Lokpal is the ability to attach and confiscate property that is believed to be acquired through corrupt means.** This **can be done even while the prosecution is pending,** which acts as a strong deterrent against corruption. The rationale behind this provision is to prevent the accused from enjoying the benefits of assets obtained unlawfully and to safeguard the economic interest of the state.

Lokpal or the authorised officer may, by order in writing, provisionally attach such property for a period not exceeding ninety days from the date of the order, in the manner provided in the Second Schedule to the Income-tax Act, 1961.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The composition of the selection committee is comprised of five **members.** It includes the **Prime Minister, the Chief Justice of India (CJI) or a Judge nominated by CJI, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and an eminent jurist nominated by the President**. This diverse composition is designed to ensure a fair and unbiased selection process for the members of the Lokpal

61. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The setting up of Minorities Commission was envisaged in the Ministry of Home Affairs

Resolution in 1978. With the enactment of the **National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992,** the Minorities Commission became a statutory body and renamed as National Commission for Minorities.

Statement 1 is correct: The National Commission for Minorities is a statutory body established under the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992. It works under the administrative control of the **Ministry of Minority Affairs.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Commission is a multimember body consisting of a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson and five members. They are nominated by the Central Government from amongst persons of eminence, ability and integrity.

Provided that five Members including the Chairperson (not all the 7 members) shall be from amongst the minority communities.

Statement 3 is correct: The Commission shall prepare, in such form and at such time, for each

financial year, as may be prescribed, **its annual report,** giving a full account of its activities during the previous financial year and **forward a copy thereof to the Central Government.**

62. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019 amended the Right to Information Act, 2005. The RTI (Amendment) Act, 2019 made changes to the provision of Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and Information Commissioners (ICs) at the central and state level).

Statement 1 is correct: The tenure of central and state information commissioners has now been **reduced from five to three years by the Central Government.**

Statement 2 is incorrect: According to Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019, the salary, allowances and other service conditions of the Chief Information Commissioner and an Information Commissioner shall be **such as prescribed by the Central Government.** But they cannot be varied to his disadvantage during service.

Earlier according to 2005 RTI Act states that the salary of the **CIC and ICs** (at the central level) will be equivalent to the **salary** paid to the **Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners, respectively.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Commission consists of a Chief Information Commissioner and not more than ten Information Commissioners. **They are not eligible for reappointment.** Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2019 has not made any changes with this regard.

63. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. The Lokpal has jurisdiction to inquire into allegations of corruption against anyone who is or has been Prime Minister, or a Minister in the Union government, or a Member of Parliament, as well as **officials of the Union government under Groups A, B, C and D.**

Statement 2 and 3 are incorrect. The following are the drawbacks (shortcomings) of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013:

1) **The Lokpal does not have the suo motu power to initiate proceedings against any public servant.**
2) Emphasis on form of complaint rather than substance.
3) Heavy punishment for false and frivolous complaints against public servants may deter complaints being filed to Lokpal.
4) **Anonymous complaints not allowed** -Can't just make a complaint on plain paper and drop it in a box with supporting documents.
5) Legal assistance to public servant against whom complaint is filed.
6) Limitation period of 7 years to file complaints.
7) Very non-transparent procedure for dealing with complaints against the PM

Statement 4 is correct. The Lokpal has the power of **superintendence and direction over any central investigating agency,** including the CBI, for cases referred to them by the Lokpal.

64. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is the central counter-terrorism law enforcement agency in the country. It was created in 2008 after the Mumbai terror attack. It can investigate terror cases across the country **without** having to get **permission from the states.**

Statement 2 is correct: The NIA (Amendment) Act 2019 expands the jurisdiction of the NIA. Now, it has the authority to **investigate scheduled offences that are committed outside** Indian territory subject to international treaties and domestic laws of other nations.

Statement 3 is correct: The NIA (Amendment) Act 2019 allows the agency to investigate the following new offences, these are - Human trafficking; Counterfeit currency or bank notes related offences; Sale or manufacture of prohibited arms; Offences under the Explosive Substances Act, 1908; and **Cyber terrorism.**

Important Tips

- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was constituted in 2009 under the provisions of the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 (NIA Act). It is the central counter-terrorism law enforcement agency in the country.
- The headquarters of the NIA is at New Delhi.
- The NIA is headed by a Director-General. He is appointed by the central government. His powers are like the powers exercisable by a Director-General of Police in respect of the police force in a state.
- The NIA works under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
- The state government extends all assistance and co-operation to the NIA for investigation of the offences specified under the NIA Act.

65. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Constitution makes a provision for the establishment of a Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC) for two or more states. While the UPSC and the SPSC are created directly by the Constitution, a JSPSC can be created by an act of Parliament on the request of the state legislatures concerned. Thus, a JSPSC is **a statutory and not a constitutional body.**

Statement 1 is correct: The Government of India Act of 1919 provides **a Central Public Service Commission** which was set up in 1926 and entrusted with the task of recruiting civil servants. **The Government of India Act of 1935** provided for the establishment of not only a Federal Public Service Commission but also a Provincial Public Service

Commission and **Joint Public Service Commission for two or more provinces.**

Statement 2is incorrect: The **President (not Parliament)** decides the number of members of a JSPSC and their conditions of service.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The chairman and members of a JSPSC are appointed by the President. They hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 62 years, whichever is earlier. They can **be suspended or removed by the President.** They can also resign from their offices at any time by submitting their resignation letters to the president. The Governor has no role in appointment and removal.

Statement 4 is correct: A JSPSC presents its annual performance report to **each of the concerned state Governors**. Each Governor places the report before the state legislature.

66. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

On January 1, 2015, the NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) was established as the successor to the planning commission. NITI Aayog is the premier policy 'Think Tank' of the Government of India, providing both directional and policy inputs.

Statement 1 is correct: The NITI Aayog will develop mechanisms to formulate **credible plans to the village level and aggregate these progressively at higher levels** of government. It will ensure special attention to the sections of society that may be at risk of not benefitting adequately from economic progress.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Regional Council of NITI Aayog: These are formed to address specific issues and contingencies impacting more than one state or a region. These are formed for a specified tenure. These are **convened by the Prime Minister**. It comprises of the following.

1) **Chief Ministers of States**
2) **Lt. Governors of Union Territories in the region.**
3) These are **chaired by the Chairperson of the NITI Aayog or his nominee**.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The NITI Aayog, like that of the Planning Commission, was also created by an **executive resolution** of the Government of India (i.e., Union Cabinet). Hence, it is a **non-constitutional or extra-constitutional** body (i.e., not created by the Constitution) and **a non-statutory** body (not created by an Act of the Parliament).

Important Tips

NITI Aayog: The Composition of NITI Aayog is as follows.

1) **The Prime Minister of India is the Chairperson of the NITI Aayog.**
2) **Governing Council:** It comprises the **Chief Ministers of all the States, Chief Ministers of Union Territories with Legislatures** (i.e., Delhi, Puducherry and Jammu and Kashmir) **and Lt. Governors of other Union Territories.**
3) **Full-time Organizational Framework: It comprises, in addition to the Prime Minister as the Chairperson:**
   a) **Vice-Chairperson**: He is appointed by the Prime Minister. He enjoys the rank of cabinet minister.
   b) **Members: Full-time**. They enjoy the rank of Minister of State.
   c) **Part-time Members: Maximum of 2**, from leading universities, research organizations and other relevant institutions in an ex-officio capacity. Part-time members would be on rotation.
   d) **Ex-Officio Members**: Maximum of **4 members of the Union Council of Ministers** to be **nominated by the Prime Minister.**
   e) **Chief Executive Officer:** He is **appointed by the Prime Minister** for a fixed tenure, in the **rank of Secretary** to the Government India.
   f) **Secretariat:** As deemed necessary.

67. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The NHRC is a multi-member body consisting of a chairperson and five members.

1) **The chairperson should be a retired chief justice of India, or a judge of the Supreme Court** and **members** should be a **serving or retired judge of the Supreme court**, a **serving or retired chief justice of a high court** and **three persons** (out of which at least one should be a woman) **having knowledge** or practical experience with respect to **human rights.**
2) In addition to these full-time members, the commission also has **seven ex-officio members**–the chairpersons of the NC for **Minorities**, the NC for **SCs**, the NC for **STs**, the NC for **Women**, the NC for **BCs** and the NC **for Protection of Child Rights** and the **Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities**.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Commission shall meet at such time and place as the Chairperson may think fit. There is **no mandate that the commission should meet at least 3 times a year.**

Statement 3 is correct: The functions of the Commission are as follows:

1) NHRC investigates grievances regarding the violation of human rights **either Suo moto** or after receiving **a petition**.
2) **To visit jails and detention places to study the living conditions of inmates and make recommendations thereon.**
3) To study treaties and other international instruments on human rights and make recommendations for their effective implementation.
4) To encourage the efforts of NGOs working in the field of human rights, etc.

Statement 4 is correct: The NHRC is vested with the power to regulate its own procedure. **It has all the powers of a civil**

court, and its proceedings have a judicial character. It may call for information or reports from the Central and state governments or any other authority subordinate thereto.

68. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: A State Public Service Commission consists of a chairman and other members **appointed by the governor of the state.** The chairman and members of the Commission hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 62 years. Although the chairman and members of a SPSC are appointed by the Governor, they can be **removed only by the President (and not by the governor).** The President can remove them on the same grounds and in the **same manner as** he can remove a **chairman or a member of the UPSC.**

Statement 2 is correct: The chairperson and members of a SHRC is appointed by the governor, but they **can be removed only by the President** (and not by the governor).

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Constitution makes a provision for the establishment of a Joint State Public Service Commission (JSPSC) for two or more states. A JSPSC is a statutory and not a constitutional body. **The chairman and members of a JSPSC are appointed by the President.** They hold office for a term of six years or until they attain the age of 62 years, whichever is earlier. **They can be suspended or removed by the President.** They can also resign from their offices at any time by submitting their resignation letters to the president.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The State Information Commission consists of a State Chief Information Commissioner and not more than ten State Information Commissioners. **They are appointed by the Governor** on the recommendation of a committee consisting of the Chief Minister as Chairperson, the Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly and a State Cabinet Minister nominated by the Chief Minister. The **Governor of State can remove the State Chief Information Commissioner or any State Information Commissioner** from the office.

Important Tips

The **chairperson and members of State Human Rights Commission are appointed by the Governor** on the recommendations of a committee consisting of:

1) chief minister as its head,
2) the speaker of the Legislative Assembly,
3) the state home minister and the leader of the opposition in the Legislative Assembly.
4) In the case of a state having Legislative Council, the chairman of the Council and the leader of the opposition in the Council would also be the members of the committee.

69. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The **Solicitor General of India (SGI)** is the **second-highest law officer** after the Attorney General of India. The SGI assists the Attorney General and represents the Government of India in various courts, including the Supreme Court.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The office of the Solicitor General is **extra-constitutional** (i.e., not mentioned in the Constitution), but it **is a statutory office.** It is governed by the **Law Officers (Conditions of Service) Rules, 1987.**

Statement 2 is correct. The SGI is empowered to **represent the Government of India** in legal matters, including **references made by the President under Article 143** of the Constitution (i.e., advisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court).

Statement 3 is incorrect. Unlike the Attorney General, the **SGI does not have the right to participate in the proceedings of Parliament.** The Attorney General enjoys this constitutional privilege under **Article 88.**

70. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Statement 1 is correct: The Solicitor General of India (SGI) is the second-highest law officer of the country, after the Attorney General of India.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The SGI is not a constitutional post but a statutory position. Solicitor general and Additional Solicitor Generals' office and duties are governed by Law Officers (Conditions of Service) Rules, 1987.

Statement 3 is correct: The SGI is appointed by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.

INDIAN POLITY AND GOVERNANCE

MISCELLANEOUS

9.1. Elections

1. With reference to the provisions regarding "hate speech and freedom of expression" in India, consider the following statements:

1. Hate speech is not defined in any existing law in India.
2. Representation of the People Act, 1951 disqualifies a person from contesting election if he is convicted for illegitimate use of freedom of speech and expression.
3. The Constitution allows the State to make laws regarding freedom of speech to prevent defamation or incitement to an offence.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

2. Consider the following statements with reference to disqualifications from Membership of Parliament:

1. A person failed to lodge an account of election expenses within the time frame.
2. A person is dismissed from state or central government service for corruption.
3. A person is convicted for any offence resulting in imprisonment for two or more years.
4. A person is undischarged insolvent.
5. A person holds the office of profit under the State government.

In how many of the above cases will a person be disqualified to be chosen as a member of Parliament under the provisions of the Representations of Peoples Act, 1951?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

3. Consider the following categories of persons in India:

1. Persons with disability
2. Electors subjected to preventive detention
3. Health care provider
4. Union Cabinet Minister

How many of the above can cast their vote through Postal Ballot in India?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

4. Consider the following statements:

According to Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023:

1. the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners are eligible for re-appointment after completing their term.
2. the selection committee consists of Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and Chief Justice of India.
3. salary of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners shall be equal to the salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court.
4. the Election Commissioners can be removed from office on the same grounds as the Judge of Supreme Court.

Which of the statements given above are **incorrect?**

(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

5. Consider the following statements with respect to the Registered Unrecognized Political Parties (RUPPs):

1. If a political party has never contested in elections since it got registered with the Election Commission, then it can be called as RUPP.
2. No separate election symbol is reserved for such parties.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

6. Which of the following can be the advantages of system of 'proportional representation' over the 'first past the post' electoral system?

1. Compared to first past the post system, Proportional representation can provide fairer and better representation to minority sections of the population.
2. There is a much higher chance of electing a stable government under Proportional representation compared to first past the post system.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

7. In the context of Bye-Elections in India, consider the following statements:

1. It may not be held if the remainder of the term of the member whose vacancy is to be filled is less than one year.
2. The Model Code of Conduct does not apply during bye-elections in a constituency.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

8. With reference to the issue of Electoral Funding in India, consider the following statements about Electoral Trusts Scheme:

1. Electoral trusts are formed by the political parties recognized by ECI.
2. Electoral trusts cannot receive funds from individuals.
3. Electoral Trusts must donate all the contributions received in a financial year to political parties.

Which of the above given statements are **incorrect**?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 2 and 3 only

9. Consider the following statements:

The Constitution of India empowers the Parliament to make laws relating to elections to:

1. Lok Sabha
2. Rajya Sabha
3. State Legislative Assemblies.
4. State Legislative Councils.

How many of the above options are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

10. According to the Election Commission of India, in order to be recognised as a 'National Party', a political party must be a recognised state party in how many states?

(a) At least two states
(b) At least three states
(c) At least four states
(d) At least five states

11. Consider the following statements about "None of the Above (NOTA)"

1. If NOTA gets maximum votes in a constituency, re-elections take place in that constituency.
2. It is not available in Rajya Sabha elections.
3. NOTA button is the first option on the voting panel of EVM

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

12. In context to the Indian polity, the 'plurality system' most appropriately refers to which of the following?

(a) A system in which a political party gets seats in proportion to the percentage of votes secured by it.
(b) An electoral system in which a candidate must secure a majority of the total votes to be declared elected.
(c) A system in which the leader who enjoys the majority support in the House of people/Lower House is appointed as the Prime Minister.
(d) An electoral system in which the candidate who secures the highest number of votes is declared elected.

13. With reference to the "None of the Above" (NOTA) option in elections in India, consider the following statements:

1. It was introduced at the national level for the first time during the 2004 General Elections to the Lok Sabha.

2. It is not applicable in elections of the members of the Rajya Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

14. Consider the following statements:

When the voter cast vote through Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) system, a slip is printed containing the:

1. Name of the contesting candidate
2. Name of the party to which the contesting candidate belongs or Independent in case of independent candidate.
3. Symbol of the party or individual candidate
4. Name of the Voter

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

15. Consider the following statements:

The Election Commission of India in its ancillary power can undo the registration of Political party if:

1. the party obtained registration by fraudulent means.
2. the party has been declared illegal by the Government of India.
3. the party failed to conduct inner-party elections.
4. the party failed to contest elections for 10 consecutive years.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) None of the above

16. Consider the following statements:

A political party shall be eligible to be recognized as National party, if, and only if:

1. the party is recognized as a state party in at least four states.
2. at the last general election to the House of the People, the party has won at least two percent of the total number of seats in the House of the People and the party 's candidates have been elected to that House from not less than three States.
3. at the last general election to the House of the People, the Party have secured not less than eight percent of the total valid votes.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

17. With reference to the Delimitation Commission in India, which of the statements given above is correct?

(a) It is mandatory for the government to setup Delimitation Commission before every general election to the Lok Sabha.
(b) It determines the seats to be reserved for Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.
(c) Only Parliament can modify the orders of the commission.
(d) The final order of commission comes into force on a date specified by the Election Commission of India.

18. With reference to elections in India, consider the following statements:

1. The 17th Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA) made the procedure for removal of other Election Commissioners the same as that of Chief Election Commissioner.
2. The candidate contesting elections for State and Central legislature must declare his/her - own assets, spouses' assets and dependants' assets.
3. It is mandatory for political parties to publish criminal records of their candidates on their websites and to publish them in at least two newspapers.
4. Legislatures can be removed from his/her post immediately after his/her conviction of offences which amounts to at least 2-year imprisonment.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1 and 4 only

19. Consider the following:

1. Allocation of seats in the House of the People and Legislative Assemblies.
2. Preparation and revision of electoral rolls.
3. Procedure for registration of political parties
4. Procedure and grounds for disqualification of elected representatives.

The Representation of the People Act, 1950 contains specific provisions related to how many of the above issues?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

20. The Model Code of Conduct (MCC) is issued by Election Commission of India (ECI) to conduct free and fair election. In that context consider following statements with respect to Model code of Conduct:

1. It has no statutory backing.
2. It is enforced from the date of announcement of the dates of election by the Election Commission.
3. It lays down a list of do's and don'ts for the electoral candidate as well as the political parties ahead of elections.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3 only

21. Consider the following institutions:

1. Lok Sabha
2. Rajya Sabha
3. State Legislative council
4. Gram Panchayats

In how many of the above given institutions, the Constitution of India provides reservations for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

22. With reference to Disqualification of members of Parliament and State Legislature, consider the following statements:

1. Conviction for any offence resulting in imprisonment for 2 or more years.
2. If dismissed from government service for corruption or disloyalty to the state.
3. If punished for practising and preaching social crimes like sati, untouchability, etc.

How many of the above disqualifications are mentioned under the Representation of Peoples act 1951?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

23. Which among the following authorities has power to prepare the electoral rolls for a Parliamentary or assembly constituency during the electoral process in India?

(a) District Election Officer (DEO).
(b) Electoral Registration Officer (ERO).
(c) Presiding Officer of the polling booth.
(d) Observers

24. With regard to the Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs), consider the following statements:

1. They include those parties that have never contested elections after being registered.
2. They are eligible for free telecast facilities over All India Radio during general assembly elections.
3. They are not entitled to an exclusive allotment of a reserved election symbol.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 3 only

25. With regard to the election expenditure during the election process, consider the following statements:

1. There is no limit on how much a political party can spend on elections.
2. For Lok Sabha elections, the election expenditure by a candidate is fixed by the Election Commission of India.
3. The Election Commission of India (ECI) can disqualify a person if he or she fails to submit an account of election expenses.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3 only

26. With regard to the Delimitation Commission in India, consider the following statements.

1. It readjusts boundaries of different constituencies for state assembly and Lok Sabha elections based on the most recent census.
2. It is appointed by the Central Government.
3. The Chief election commissioner is the ex-officio chairperson of the commission.
4. When the orders of the commission are laid before the Lok Sabha, they cannot effect any modifications in the orders.

Which of the above given statements are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

27. Free and Fair elections are must for vibrant Democracy, in this context, consider the following statements about Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT):

1. This system was used for the first time by the Election Commission of India in the 2013 General Assembly elections in Nagaland.
2. VVPAT slips contain the name of the candidate along with his/her party's symbol and name of the voter.
3. Presently, for every EVM machine at least 20% of the valid votes are cross checked mandatorily with VVPAT slips.

Which of the above given statements are ***incorrect***?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

28. Consider the following individuals/groups:

1. An undertrial prisoner
2. A prisoner convicted of a crime
3. Non-Resident Indians (NRIs)
4. Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs)

How many of the above individuals/groups have the right to vote during general election in India?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) None

29. Consider the following statements about the Returning Officer (RO) during general elections in India:

1. The Election Commission appoints the officer in consultation with the state governments or Union Territory.
2. S/he administers oath to candidates after they have filed their nomination papers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

30. Consider the following statements about elections petitions with respect to the elections to the Parliament or the state legislatures:

1. It can be filed only by the candidates who contested in that election.
2. They have to be filed in the High Court of the state concerned.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

31. With reference to the Model Code of Conduct (MCC), consider the following statements:

1. It is enforced from the date of announcement of election schedule by the Election Commission of India.
2. During bye election in any constituency, the code will be enforced in the area of the concerned constituency only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

32. In India, elections of which of the following are held in accordance with the method of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote?

1. President
2. Vice-President
3. Members of Rajya Sabha
4. Speaker of Lok Sabha
5. Members of State Legislative Council

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2, 3 and 5 only
(b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 3, 4 and 5 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

33. With reference to Election system in India, consider the following statements:

Statement I: India adopted First Past the Post (FPTP) system to elect representatives to the Lok Sabha and State Legislatures.

Statement II: First Past the Post (FPTP) election system provides for more stable government compared to Proportional Representation (PR) method of election.

Statement III: Unlike the Proportional Representation (PR) system, the First Past the Post (FPTP) system allows voters to know their representatives and hold them accountable.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement II and Statements III are correct and both of them explain Statement I.
(b) Both Statement II and Statement III are correct but only one of them explains Statement I.
(c) Only one of Statements II and III is correct and that explains Statement I.
(d) Neither Statement II nor Statement III is correct

34. Consider the following statements with reference to rules related to exit polls in India:

1. The Representation of People Act, 1951, prohibits the conduct of exit polls until 24 hours after the last polling booth closes.
2. No exit polls can be published by any newspaper or new channels under any circumstance during the voting period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

35. Consider the following statements:

The Chief Election Commissioner of India:

1. is appointed by the President on the recommendation of a three-member selection committee headed by the Chief Justice of India.
2. has the authority to veto the decision of other Election Commissioners in case of difference of opinion on any matter before the Election commission.
3. can be removed by the President only on the ground of 'violation of the Constitution'.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) None

36. With reference to the political parties in India, consider the following statements:

1. A candidate of a political party can contest election in India only if the party is recognized by the Election Commission of India.
2. The national party status of political parties is revised by the Election Commission of India every year based on the poll performance of parties.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

37. Consider the following pairs regarding officers on election duty and their roles:

Officers on election duty	Descriptions of roles
1. Chief electoral officer	Supervise the election work in the state/Union Territory
2. Returning officer	In-charge of a polling station, who conducts the poll
3. Electoral registration officer	Responsible for the preparation of electoral rolls for constituency.
4. Presiding officer	Responsible for the conduct of elections in the constituency

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 and 4 only

38. Consider the following statements regarding exit polls and opinion polls:

1. Opinion poll is an opinion survey regarding how electors have voted at an election.
2. There is provision of regulation of exit polls in Representation of People Act, 1951.
3. Currently, exit polls can be telecast only after the conclusion of the last phase of the election.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

39. Consider the following statements regarding the provisions of the Representation of People Act (RPA) 1951:

1. RPA, 1951 covers provisions related to qualifications of membership of Parliament and State Legislature, conduct of elections, corrupt practices and electoral offences.
2. The Election Commission can reduce the period of disqualification of a person under RPA, 1951.
3. As per RPA, one candidate can contest from maximum two constituencies in a general election.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 2 and 3 only

40. Which of the following powers/functions are vested in the Election Commission of India (ECI)?

1. Transfer of public officials who have been assigned any electoral duty
2. Determining the schedule of general elections
3. Delimitation of electoral constituencies
4. Preparation of electoral rolls for local body elections

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4
(c) 1, 3 and 4
(d) 1, 2 and 3

41. With reference to the essential features of democratic elections, which of the following statements are correct?

1. Every vote should have equal value.
2. Elections must be conducted in a free and fair manner.
3. Voters having the freedom of choice.
4. Candidates must meet minimum educational qualifications to contest elections.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1, 2, and 3 only
(b) 2, 3, and 4 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3, and 4

42. Which of the following details are provided in the affidavit of a candidate during elections?

1. Details of serious criminal cases pending against the candidate
2. Information about the assets and liabilities of the candidate and their family
3. The candidate's passport number and travel history
4. Educational qualifications of the candidate
5. The candidate's detailed medical history

Select the correct answer using the code given below answer:

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 2, 4 and 5 only
(d) 1, 3 and 5 only

43. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: National Voters Day in India is celebrated on January 25.

Statement II: On 25th January 1950, India became one of the few countries to grant Universal Adult Suffrage.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I

(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

44. With reference to the election process in India, consider the following responsibilities:

1. Preparing the electoral rolls of voters
2. Receiving nominations of candidates
3. Overseeing the vote counting and result declaration

How many of the above are functions of the Returning Officer (RO) in an electoral constituency?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

45. With reference to the process of election in India, consider the following statements about Model Code of Conduct (MCC):

1. It is a legally binding framework to govern the conduct of both political parties and individual candidates.
2. It comes into force immediately after the Election Commission announces the election schedule.
3. It remains in force until the election results are announced.
4. It applies to all the organisations fully or partially funded by the government of India.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 2 and 4 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 4 only

46. Consider the following statements:

While campaigning in an election, a candidate cannot:

1. appeal to voters in the name of caste or religion.
2. spend more than 95 lakhs in Lok Sabha election.
3. use government vehicles.
4. promise gadgets like laptops to certain section of people.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 3 and 4 only

47. What will happen in a case when a candidate contesting the election dies before the actual polling?

(a) Adjournment of the poll only if the nominee was a candidate of a recognized political party.
(b) Adjournment of the poll only if the nominee was a candidate of only a registered political party.
(c) Adjournment of the poll only if the contesting person was an independent candidate.
(d) There is no adjournment of the poll in any case.

48. In context of India, consider the following statements:

1. As per the Constitution, only languages mentioned in the Eighth schedule can be the official language for communication between a state and the Union.
2. The President may direct any language spoken by a section of population of a state to be officially recognised throughout that State or any part thereof.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

49. Consider the following situations:

If a candidate:

1. is convicted of any offence and sentenced to imprisonment for not less than two years.
2. is dismissed from government service on corruption charges.
3. is convicted for the contravention of any law relating to the adulteration of food or drugs and sentenced to imprisonment for not less than six months.
4. is convicted for promoting enmity between different groups based on ground of religion.
5. failed to lodge an account of election expenses within the specified time.

As per the Representation of People's Act of 1951, under which of the following

conditions can a candidate be disqualified from contesting in Lok Sabha Elections?
(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

50. Consider the following situations:
1. If a candidate from a recognized political party dies before the announcement of results.
2. If a disqualified candidate is elected in the election.
3. If any nomination has been improperly rejected by authorities.

In which of the above cases, Election to the State Legislative Assembly can be declared as void?
(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

51. Which of the following committees submitted reports on Electoral reforms?
1. Dinesh Goswami Committee
2. Tarkunde Committee
3. Indrajit Gupta Committee
4. Balwantrai Mehta Committee

Select the correct answer using the code given below.
(a) 1, 3 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 and 4 only

52. Who among the following has the power to cancel the general elections in the entire country or a specific constituency on the grounds that the atmosphere is vitiated and therefore, a free and fair election may not be possible?
(a) The Union Cabinet
(b) Parliament of India
(c) The President of India
(d) The Election Commission of India

53. Consider the following statements:
1. Every eligible adult having a single vote of equal value.
2. Any number of political parties having the liberty to participate in elections.
3. Reservation of seats in the legislature for the marginalized sections of society.

How many of the above are the minimum necessary conditions for conducting democratic elections in general?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

54. Consider the following statements about the removal of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) from his office:
1. CEC can be removed based on the grounds of proved misbehavior or incapacity.
2. President can remove the CEC if both Houses of Parliament pass such resolution with a majority of members present and voting in the house.
3. A motion for the removal of the CEC can be introduced only in Lok Sabha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 2 only

55. Which of the following statements is not correct about a Reserved Constituency of Lok Sabha for Scheduled Tribes?
(a) Article 330 of the Indian Constitution provides for reservation of seats for Scheduled Tribes in Lok Sabha.
(b) The current Lok Sabha has 47 seats reserved for the Scheduled Tribes.
(c) Each State in India has at least one seat reserved for Scheduled tribes in the Lok Sabha.
(d) Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of seats reserved for Schedule Tribes in Lok Sabha.

56. With respect to Electoral Constituencies of the Lok Sabha in India, consider the following statements:
1. Reserved constituencies for Scheduled Castes are distributed uniformly across the nation.
2. Currently, the number of seats allocated to various states in Lok Sabha is based on the 2001 census.
3. Uttar Pradesh currently has the highest number of Lok Sabha constituencies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

57. With respect to Electoral System in India, which of the following statement is *not* correct?

(a) A person subjected to preventive detention cannot cast their vote.
(b) Aadhar number is not mandatory for inclusion of eligible voter in electoral roll.
(c) Voter ID issued by Election Commission is not mandatory for the voter to cast his/her vote.
(d) Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) used in Indian election are manufactured by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL).

58. Consider the following statements regarding the right to vote in India:

1. Article 326 of the Indian Constitution does not prescribe any specific educational qualifications as a prerequisite for exercising the right to vote.
2. The Constitution (Sixty-first Amendment) Act, 1988, lowered the voting age of elections to the Lok Sabha and to the Legislative Assemblies of States from 21 years to 18 years.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

59. Consider the following personal details of candidates contesting in Lok Sabha or state assembly elections in India:

1. Educational qualifications
2. Assets and liabilities of self and family members
3. Pending criminal cases
4. Sources of income

How many of the above-mentioned personal details are mandatory for candidates to disclose in the declaration form submitted to the Election Commission, for contesting Lok Sabha or State Assembly elections?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

60. Which of the following statement is *incorrect* with respect to Election Campaigning of a Lok Sabha candidate and the Model Code of Conduct in India?

(a) The MCC remains in effect from the polling date until the announcement of the results of the election.
(b) Candidate cannot use place of worship for election propaganda.
(c) Candidate can utilize All India Radio for election campaign for prescribed time.
(d) Candidates cannot use public property for election-related advertisements.

61. With reference to Elections in India, consider the following statements:

1. Until now, simultaneous elections for Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies were held only once.
2. The Communist Party of India was the single largest opposition party after the first Lok Sabha elections.
3. Kerala became the first non-Congress ruled state in 1957.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

62. Consider the following statements:

1. Postal voting is the facility through which voters can cast their vote by sending a ballot paper to the election officer.
2. Proxy voting is a facility through which a registered elector can delegate his/her voting power to a representative.
3. Members of armed forces can vote both through postal voting and proxy voting.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3 only

63. Mr. X contested an election for the Lok Sabha seat and had won the same. Later, Mr. Y, the opponent, accused Mr. X of some electoral malpractices and intended to file an election petition. In the given situation, who/which among the following can admit an election petition and can declare the election result as valid/invalid?

(a) The President of India
(b) The Election Commission of India
(c) The High Court
(d) Speaker of the Lok Sabha

64. Which of the following statements is *not* correct regarding the recognition of a political party as a 'National Party'?

(a) The Election Commission of India (ECI) is the competent authority to grant national party status to a political party.
(b) Once a party gets the status of national party, it will continue to be a national party irrespective of its performance in the future elections.
(c) A political party gets national status if it is recognized as a state party in four states.
(d) A national party enjoys the privilege of free broadcast time on state-run television during the elections.

65. Consider the following statements:

1. We cannot have democracy without holding elections.
2. We cannot have elections without having democracy.
3. We may not have democratic elections in the absence of the rule of law.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) None of the above

66. With reference to the star campaigners in elections, consider the following statements:

1. Electioneering Expenditure incurred by a star campaigner is not added to a candidate's poll expenditure.
2. The appointment of star campaigner needs to be approved by the Election Commission of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

67. With reference to election system in India, consider the following assertion and reason:

Assertion: India adopted the First Past the Post (FPTP) system for elections to the Lok Sabha, instead of Proportional Representation (PR).

Reason: The FPTP system promotes stability and ensures the majority government.

Which of the following options given below is correct?

(a) Both Assertion and Reason are true and Reason is the correct explanation of Assertion
(b) Both Assertion and Reason are true but Reason is not the correct explanation of Assertion
(c) Assertion is true but Reason is false.
(d) Assertion is false but Reason is true.

68. With reference to the Delimitation Commission of India, which of the following statements is correct?

(a) It is appointed by the Election commission of India.
(b) It draws/redraws the boundaries of constituencies for parliamentary, state legislature and Panchayati raj elections.
(c) In India, a total five Delimitation Commissions have been set up till now.
(d) Its orders have the force of law and cannot be called in question before any court.

69. With reference to the composition of Delimitation Commission of India, consider the following options:

1. A retired Supreme Court judge
2. The Chief Election Commissioner
3. The State Election Commissioners of the respective states
4. A sitting judge of any High Court in India

How many of the given above are part of the Delimitation Commission of India?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

70. The Representation of People's Act, 1951 deals with which of the following matters?

1. Qualifications and disqualifications for membership of Parliament and State legislatures.
2. Allocation of seats in the House of People and State Legislative Assemblies.
3. Corrupt practices and Electoral offences
4. Delimitation of Parliamentary, Assembly and Council Constituencies

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

71. Consider the following features:

1. Presence of multiple political parties
2. Uncertainty regarding the outcome of the election
3. Inclusion of Voice of diverse groups of the society
4. Potential to create factionalism in the society

How many of the options given above are features of the Competitive Electoral System?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

72. the following statements regarding Election Commission of India:

1. It inquires about the disputes arising out of the election of Vice-President of India.
2. It cannot disqualify a candidate for violation of the Model Code of Conduct.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

73. Which of the following statements about elections in India is *not* correct?

(a) According to the Constitution, every citizen of India over the age of 18 has the right to vote in Lok Sabha and State Legislative elections.
(b) The Government of India bears all election expenses for candidates contesting for Lok Sabha and State Legislative elections.
(c) Candidates with pending criminal cases can contest Lok Sabha elections.
(d) Currently, in India there is no specific law in place to ensure internal democracy of political parties.

74. Which of the following is common to the election for the membership of both Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha?

(a) Every citizen above the age of 18 is an eligible voter.
(b) A voter can cast a vote for multiple candidates.
(c) The candidate contesting election must be registered as an elector from any parliamentary constituency.
(d) The winner must get more than half of the votes polled.

75. Consider the following statements regarding the Election Commission of India:

1. An Election Commissioner can be removed by the President from his/her office based on the recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner.
2. The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners receive different pay and allowances as decided by the President.
3. In case of disagreement between the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners, decisions are made by a majority vote within the Commission.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3 only

9.2. Anti-Defection Law

76. In which of the following cases, a member of Parliament will be liable to be disqualified on the ground of defection according to the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution?

1. If he/she voluntarily gives up membership of his party after being elected as Presiding officer of house.
2. If he/she votes contrary to any direction issued by his political party.
3. If he/she, as a nominated member, joins any political party within six months of taking his seat.
4. If he/she, as an independent member joins any political party after being elected.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

77. With reference to the Anti-defection provisions in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Anti-defection provisions in the Constitution of India were introduced through the 62nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1989.
2. The authority to make the final decision on disqualification of Members of Parliament under the Anti-defection law rests with the President of India.

3. If a member is absent from the House despite being directed by the party leadership to be present, it is considered an act of defection.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3
(c) 3 only
(d) 2 and 3

78. In the context of the 'anti-defection' law in India, consider the following statements:
1. The deputy chairman of the Rajya Sabha will be disqualified under the Tenth Schedule if s/he voluntarily gives up membership of his/ her political party.
2. A Member of Parliament (MP) can be disqualified on the grounds of defection if s/he publicly expresses support for another party by attending its rallies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

79. Which of the following statements is correct with respect to disqualification of nominated members of the Parliament under the provisions of Anti defection law?
(a) They cannot be disqualified under the provisions of Anti-defection law if they have been nominated for Rajya Sabha.
(b) They can be disqualified if they refuse to join any political party within six months of their nomination.
(c) They can be disqualified if they join any political party at any time during their tenure.
(d) They can be disqualified if they join any political party after six months of their nomination.

9.3. Governance

80. With reference to Social Audit in India, consider the following statements:
1. In India, the social audit began in 1975 with the introduction of Twenty Point Programme.
2. As per the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act 2005, a Grama Sabha must conduct social audit of all projects executed under scheme within that Gram Panchayat.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

81. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: Good Governance Day is celebrated annually on 25th December in India.

Statement II: The Right to Information Act came into effect on December 25, 2005.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

82. Which of the following are the basic elements of the Citizen's Charter?
1. Provision for the inspection of the agency's work.
2. Details of Grievance Redressal Mechanisms
3. Choice and consultation provisions for citizens
4. Complete insulation between service provider and citizen

Select the correct option using the code given below:
(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4
(d) 1, 3 and 4

83. National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS) is related to:
(a) a digital platform for registration of properties and documents across the country.
(b) a digital platform for seamless integration of educational institutions.
(c) a digital platform launched by the Ministry of External affairs to provide online passport seva.
(d) a digital platform which is aimed at storing the genome map of the country.

84. Consider the following statements regarding Self Help Groups (SHGs) in India:

1. They promote the habit of thrift and savings among members through regular contributions.
2. They can access financial support from banks and financial institutions without requiring collateral.
3. The ownership and control of SHGs rest with the external facilitator who facilitates the formation of the group.

Which of the above statements are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

85. Consider the following pairs:

e-governance initiatives	Primary objective
1. Meghraj	To promote cloud computing services for better e-governance service delivery
2. e-Kranti	Ensuring transparency in coal block auctioning
3. PRAGATI platform	Grievance redressal for the public and reviewing important programmes of the government

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

86. Consider the following statements:

1. Citizens' Charter was introduced in India, based on the recommendation of the 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission.
2. The Citizen's Charter and Grievance Redressal Act 2011 mandates every public office to inform the public about the services it provides and the timelines for their delivery.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

87. Which of the following statements are correct about the Right to information (RTI) Act, 2005?

1. The Act gives the right to information only to the citizens of India.
2. In normal course, information to an applicant shall be supplied within 30 days from the receipt of application by the public authority.
3. Any information relating to any private body is exempted from the ambit of the RTI Act.

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

88. With reference to Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), consider the following provisions:

1. Article 19 of Indian Constitution safeguards the Indian citizen's right to form NGOs.
2. NGOs are generally voluntary, non-profit making and service-oriented organizations dedicated to the development of the community.
3. All NGOs functioning in India are mandated to register under Foreign Contribution Regulation Act.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

89. With reference to the Pressure Groups, consider the following statements:

1. Their objective is to influence legislature, executive and other decision makers through methods such as lobbying, petitioning and strikes.
2. Unlike political parties, pressure groups do not aim to directly acquire or exercise political power.
3. In India, it is mandatory for all pressure groups to register under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

90. Consider the following statements:
1. Public Interest groups are organizations working to advance common interests shared across society.
2. Sectional Interest groups are organizations that seek to promote the interests of a particular section or group.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

91. Which of the following statements is correct regarding the pressure groups?
(a) These groups essentially erode the principles of democracy by exerting influence on a duly elected government.
(b) To be recognized as a pressure group, it must have a formal structure with clearly defined roles and responsibilities.
(c) A pressure group can be affiliated with a political party.
(d) Their activities essentially establish the dominance of a particular section of society.

92. Consider the following statements:
1. A pressure group, unlike political parties, does not aim to directly acquire political power.
2. Unlike movement groups, interest groups depend mostly on spontaneous mass agitation on a particular issue.

Which of the statements given above is/ are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

93. Consider the following pairs:

Events or actions by some popular organizations/ groupings	Nature of the mentioned organization/ grouping
1. Narmada Bachao Aandolan mobilized citizens to stop the construction of Sardar Sarovar Dam.	Movement Group
2. The protests led by Bhartiya Jana Sangh against the Central Government.	Political Group
3. Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) working for the promotion of women's rights	Promotional Group

How many pairs mentioned above are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

94. There is rising significance of citizen's charters for ensuring accountable and transparent governance. In this context, consider the following statements:
1. The concept of Citizen's Charter was first articulated and implemented in the United Kingdom.
2. Citizen's Charter is not legally enforceable and non-justiciable.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

95. Access to information is the bedrock of Good Governance. In this context, consider the following statements about Right to Information Act (RTI) 2005:
1. The information must be provided within 15 days of the receipt of the application by the Public Authority.
2. To ensure the independence of Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners, their tenure is fixed for 5 Years.
3. It is mandatory to disclose the purpose for seeking the information.
4. Information exempted from disclosure under Section 8 of the Act, cannot be disclosed under any circumstances.

How many of the above statements are **incorrect?**

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

96. In context of Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS), consider the following statements:

1. It is a platform for citizens to file grievances against government departments.
2. Through CPGRAMS portal complaints can be filed against the state government departments as well.
3. It encompasses cases under consideration by the court or any matter related to court judgments.

Which of the above statements are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

97. Which of the following best defines the term 'Social Audit'?

(a) A financial review of an organization's social media accounts.
(b) An evaluation of an organization's environmental impact on society.
(c) A systematic assessment of an organization's social responsibility practices.
(d) A performance analysis of an organization's social events calendar.

98. With reference to Right to Information act 2005, consider the following:

1. Political parties.
2. Public sector undertaking.
3. Election Commission of India.
4. Office of Chief Justice of India.
5. Securities and Exchange Board of India.

How many of the above mentioned are considered as Public Authorities under RTI act?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

99. In context of Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM-CARES) fund, consider the following statements:

1. It does not get any budgetary support.
2. Contributions made to the PM-CARES fund are eligible for a 100% tax deduction under the Income Tax Act of 1961.
3. President of India is the ex-officio Chairman of the PM CARES Fund.

Which of the above statements are correct?

(a) 2 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

9.4. Other Constitutional Dimensions

100. Consider the following statements:

1. Communist Party of India did not win any seats in the elections to the Constituent Assembly of India.
2. Unionist Party won the second highest number of seats, after Indian National Congress, in the elections to the Constituent Assembly of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

101. Consider the following statements regarding the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in India:

Statement-I: Individual states in India are empowered to compile their own lists of OBCs for purposes relevant to state government jobs and education.

Statement-II: The 102nd Constitutional Amendment Act provides for the constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct but Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct and Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

102. The Constitution of India provides reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in which of the following?

1. Lok Sabha
2. Rajya Sabha
3. State Legislative Assemblies
4. State Legislative Councils
5. Cooperative Societies

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3, and 5
(c) 1, 3 and 5
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

103. With reference to Indian Polity, consider the following provisions:

1. Introduction of the doctrine of basic structure of the Constitution
2. Imposition of a 50% limit on reservations in public employment
3. Formulation of the concept of the creamy layer regarding reservations in public employment
4. Recognition of Right to Privacy as a Fundamental Right
5. Classification of actions under civil and criminal contempt of court

How many of the above provisions were the result of judicial interpretation of the Constitution?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

104. With reference to various provision contained in Part XVII (Article 343 to 351) of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. Hindi in Devanagari script is to be the official language of the Union.
2. The state legislature can authorize the use of any official language of the state with respect to judgements passed by the state's High court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

105. Regarding the special provisions with respect to Delhi under article 239AA of the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. The special provisions with respect to Delhi are based on the recommendations of the S. Balakrishnan Committee of 1987.
2. The Chief Minister of the National Capital Territory of Delhi is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor.
3. In case of difference of opinions between the Lieutenant Governor and his council of ministers on any matter, the Lieutenant Governor shall refer the matter to the President of India for further decision.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

106. In the context of making of the Indian Constitution, the Munshi-Ayyangar formula is related to the issue of:

(a) Tribal Rights
(b) Universal Adult Franchise
(c) Uniform Civil Code
(d) Official Language of the Union

107. Consider the following Indian languages:

1. Marathi
2. Assamese
3. Bengali
4. Pali
5. Gujarati

How many of the above languages are designated as Classical languages by the Government of India?

(a) 2
(b) 3
(c) 4
(d) 5

108. With reference to the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements about cooperatives:

Statement I: 97th Constitutional Amendment Act related to cooperative societies was entirely struck down by the Supreme court as unconstitutional and void.

Statement II: Cooperative societies are mentioned in List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule of the constitution of India.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the correct explanation for Statement I

(b) Both Statement I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I.
(c) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect
(d) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct

109. Which one of the following statements is *not* correct with reference to the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language?
(a) It was constituted under the provisions of the Official Languages Act, 1963.
(b) It is chaired by the union home minister and has members from both Houses of Parliament.
(c) Its primary purpose is to make recommendations to increase the use of Hindi for all official purposes.
(d) It submits it's report to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.

110. Consider the following statements regarding the official language of the Union and the states in India:
As per the Constitution:
1. the official language of the Union shall be Hindi in Devanagari script.
2. the Parliament may by law declare any language as the official language of the states based on the recommendation of the respective State legislative assembly.
3. the Governor of a state may, with the previous consent of the President, authorise the use of any language used for the official purposes of the state, in proceedings in the state High Court having its principal seat in that state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

111. Consider the following statements:
Statement-I: The states have the power of subclassification within the Scheduled Caste categories recognized under Article 341 of the Indian Constitution.
Statement-II: Article 15 and 16 of the Constitution of India gives the power to the state to make special provisions for certain backward class of citizens.
Statement-III: Article 341 of the Constitution of India gives the power to states to include or exclude any caste from the Schedule caste list.
Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct and both of them explain Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-II and Statement-III are correct, but only one of them explains Statement-I
(c) Only one of the Statement II and III is correct and that explains Statement-I
(d) Neither Statement-II nor Statement-III is correct

112. With reference to the governance of the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi, consider the following statements:
1. The Chief Minister of Delhi is appointed by the President.
2. Including the Chief Minister, the total size of the Council of Ministers shall not exceed 15% of total members of the Legislative Assembly of Delhi.
3. The Legislative Assembly of Delhi has exclusive powers to legislate on matters related to public order, police, and land.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2
(b) 1 only
(c) 1 and 3
(d) None of the above

113. Consider the following statements about the Capacity Building Commission:
1. It plays an important role in the implementation of Mission Karmayogi of the Government of India.
2. It prepares the annual State of the Civil Services report.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

114. Consider the following statements about Committee of Parliament on Official Language:
1. The Speaker of Lok Sabha is the ex-officio Chairperson of this Committee.
2. The members of the committee are from Lok Sabha only.

3. It exclusively reviews the progress made in the use of English for official purposes.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2
(b) 1 only
(c) 1 and 3
(d) None of the above

115. With reference to the difference between Political parties and Pressure groups, consider the following statements:
1. While Pressure groups do not contest elections, the Political Parties contest elections to form the Government.
2. Unlike Political parties, Pressure groups do not necessarily have political ideologies.
3. Generally, the interests of Pressure groups are wider than that of Political parties.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 and 2
(b) 1 only
(c) 1 and 3
(d) None of the above

116. With reference to Pressure groups and Interest groups, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: All pressure groups are interest groups, but all interest groups are not essentially pressure groups.

Statement-II: Pressure groups must exert pressure on the Government authorities to influence the decision in their favour.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct, and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct, but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect, but Statement-II is correct.

117. With reference to the National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH), consider the following statements:
1. It functions as an independent organisation under administrative control of Union Ministry of Home Affairs.
2. It provides financial support to children affected by social violence.

Which of the statement/s given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

118. Consider the following statements with reference to criteria for selection of a language as a Classical language in India:
1. The language should have a recorded history of at least 1,500-2,000 years.
2. The language should have texts of significant historical and cultural importance.
3. The language should have a distinct literary tradition and not be merely an offshoot of another language.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

119. Consider the following statements with regard to the language of the judiciary and text of laws in India:
1. According to the Constitution, the Governor of a state can authorize the use of Hindi in judgments, decrees, and orders of the concerned High Court of that state.
2. The Parliament has made provision for the use of Hindi in the Supreme Court.
3. A state legislature can use any language apart from English to draft bills and acts.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?
(a) 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) None

120. Consider the following statements with respect to the non-governmental organisations (NGO) in India:
1. NGOs can be registered under both Societies Registration Act, 1860 and Companies Act, 2013.
2. Any NGO seeking foreign funding must be registered under Foreign Exchange Management Act.

3. NGOs can receive foreign funding only for social and educational objectives and not religious purposes.
4. Any organisation that wants to register itself for foreign funding must have existed for three years.

Which of the statements given above are correct?
(a) 1, 2 and 4 only
(b) 1 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

121. Which of the following statements regarding reservation for SCs/ STs in promotion in government services is/ are correct?
1. It is not a fundamental right as per the constitution.
2. The 85th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2001 provides for 'consequential seniority' in the case of promotion.

Select the correct option using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

122. Consider the following statements regarding the authoritative text of the Constitution of India:
1. The Original Constitution of India had provisions with respect to an authoritative text of the Constitution in the Hindi language.
2. The Constitution of India originally adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26th November 1949 was both in Hindi and English languages.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

123. Which of the following has the authority to decide which groups in a state should be considered as Scheduled Castes (SCs)?
(a) President of India
(b) Governor of the respective state
(c) State legislature of the respective state
(d) National Commission for Scheduled Castes

124. With reference to the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities, consider the following statements:
1. S/he is appointed by the President of India.
2. S/he presents reports on the Constitutional safeguards of the Linguistic Minority to the President.
3. According to the Constitution, S/he can be removed only on the grounds of proved misbehaviour and incapacity.

Which of the above-given statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

125. For the Assertions (and Reasons (R), choose the correct alternative from the following.

Assertion (A): The first Backward Classes Commission was appointed in 1979 under the Chairmanship of BP Mandal.

Reason (R): According to the Indian Constitution, the President may appoint a commission to investigate into the conditions of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
(a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
(b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
(c) A is true but R is false
(d) A is false but R is true.

126. Consider the following statements with reference to the National Integration Council:
1. It is neither a constitutional nor a statutory body.
2. It is chaired by the President of India.
3. Meetings of the national integration council are mandatorily convened biennially.

Which of the above-given statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) None of the above

127. For the Assertions (and Reasons (R), choose the correct alternative from the following.

Assertion (A): Part XVI of the Indian Constitution provides special provisions for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in India.

Reason (R): One of the main objectives of the Constitution is to achieve equality and justice.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

(a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
(b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A
(c) A is true but R is false
(d) A is false but R is true.

128. With reference to the Anglo-Indians in India, consider the following statements:

1. They are provided with the reservation of seats in the Legislative Assemblies of the States.
2. The National Commission for Scheduled Castes has the authority to investigate the Constitutional and legal safeguards for Anglo-Indians.

Which of the above given statements is/are ***incorrect***?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

129. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Union Government is responsible for promoting and popularizing the use of Hindi.

Statement-II: The framers of the Constitution aimed to establish Hindi as a lingua franca of India's composite culture.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

130. With reference to Union Territories, consider the following statements:

1. Union territory is administered by the President acting through an administrator appointed by him.
2. The President can make laws on any subject of the Seventh Schedule including the State List for all the union territories.
3. Before the creation of a new Union Territory from an existing State, the President has to refer the matter to the concerned State Legislature (whose boundaries being altered) for expressing its views.

Which of the above given statements are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

131. With respect to Part XVI of the Constitution of India, which contains special provisions for certain classes, consider the following statements:

1. All the provisions arc of tcmporary nature.
2. Some of the provisions safeguard these classes from various forms of exploitation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 Only
(b) 2 Only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

132. With reference to the Home Minister's Advisory Committees of the Union Territories, consider the following statements:

1. These are constituted only for those Union Territories that do not have legislature.
2. They consist of nominated members from civil society.
3. They are consulted for matters related to internal security.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3 only

133. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the steps taken to deal with the practice of manual scavenging in India?

1. The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis has been established as a Constitutional body.
2. Offences under the "The Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013" are made cognizable and non-bailable.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

134. Consider the following criteria:

1. Indications of primitive traits
2. Geographical isolation
3. Distinctive culture
4. Income levels
5. Shyness of contact with the community at large

How many of the criteria given above are considered for the specification of a community as a Scheduled Tribe in India as laid out by the Lokur Committee of 1965?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

135. With regard to the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), consider the following statements:

1. The members and chairman of the commission are appointed by the President of India.
2. The term of office of each member of the NCST is five years.
3. It takes measures to ensure the full implementation of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act of 1996.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 3 only

136. Consider the following events in India and arrange them in chronological order:

1. Formation of the first coalition government at the center.
2. Reduction of the voting age in general assembly elections from 21 to 18 years.
3. Addition of 10th schedule in the constitution.
4. Removal of right to property from the list of fundamental rights.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 1-3-4-2
(b) 1-4-3-2
(c) 4-1-3-2
(d) 1-2-4-3

137. Which fundamental right safeguards the rights of Parsis to act as custodians of their cultural heritage and enable them to determine the methods for its preservation?

(a) Right to practice and propagate their religion freely
(b) Right to equality
(c) Cultural and Educational Rights
(d) Right to freedom of speech and expression

138. Which of the following statements is not correct regarding the provisions of The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989?

(a) Coercing a member of Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe to consume inedible or offensive substances is crime under the Act.
(b) The Act penalizes those who wrongfully occupy or cultivate land belonging to a member of Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe.
(c) Non-Scheduled Caste or Non-Scheduled Tribe public servants who intentionally neglect their duties under this Act may face imprisonment from six months to one year.
(d) The economic boycott of members of Scheduled Tribes or Scheduled Castes is not an offence under this act.

139. Which of the following situations most appropriately manifests the concept of 'Social Capital'?

(a) Reduced crime rates in a community with strong social bonds.
(b) An expanded tax base in a country, leading to increased public spending on healthcare and education.

(c) Construction of the road and railway network in the country to improve the quality of life of her citizens.
(d) Government investments in natural resources to foster sustainable development.

140. Consider the following steps:

1. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act of 1989 strengthened the legal provisions punishing acts of violence or humiliation against Dalits and Adivasis.
2. The Constitution provides for reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.
3. The 93rd Constitutional Amendment Act empowers states to introduce reservation for the OBCs, even in Private educational institutions.

How many of the above statements are correct regarding the step taken to address caste-based discrimination in India?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

141. With respect to Scheduled Tribes in India, consider the following statements:

1. Only Parliament can amend the list of Scheduled Tribes by adding or removing communities through legislation.
2. According to the latest Census, the tribal population in India has declined to less than 7 percent of total population.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

142. With reference to 'minorities' in the context of Indian polity, consider the following statements:

1. The term minority is not defined in the Constitution of India.
2. The State governments have the authority to designate certain linguistic and religious communities as "minorities" within their respective states.
3. As per the Constitution of India, the Governor of a state is authorized to appoint two representatives from minority communities to state legislative assemblies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None of the above

143. With reference to the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir, consider the following statements:

1. The legislative assembly of Jammu and Kashmir can make laws on any subject mentioned in the state list of the 7th schedule of the Constitution except on the subject of land.
2. The electoral college for the President of India does not include the members of the legislative assembly of Jammu and Kashmir.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

144. With reference to the safeguards available to Civil Servants in India, consider the following statements:

1. Criminal proceedings cannot be instituted against civil servants for any act done without the prior sanction of the appropriate authority.
2. A civil servant cannot be dismissed or removed by an authority subordinate to the one that appointed him/her.
3. Generally, a civil servant cannot be removed without a fair inquiry and the opportunity to defend against the charges instituted upon him/her.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

145. With reference to the recent guidelines provided for the appointment of Director General of Police (DGP) of a state, consider the following statements:

1. The empanelment committee for empaneling officers for the appointment of state DGP is headed by the Chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)
2. Only police officers with at least six months of service left before retirement will be considered for appointment as the DGP of a state.

Which of the statements above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

146. Consider the following statements regarding the liabilities of the Government of India for torts (wrongs committed) by its officials:

1. When a citizen suffers damage due to a negligent act by the servants of the State in his official capacity, the State is liable to pay compensation.
2. The Government of India can be sued for torts committed by its officials when performing sovereign functions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

147. With reference to Post Independence Indian History, the Razakars were associated with which of the following?

(a) A peasant force in Andra Pradesh resisted the integration of Hyderabad state with Madras.
(b) A paramilitary force appointed by Nizam to oppose the integration of Hyderabad into the Indian Union.
(c) Leaders of a peasant uprising in the Telangana region during the early 1950s.
(d) A peasant force in Hyderabad which resisted the integration of Hyderabad state with Andhra Pradesh.

148. Consider the following statements:

Statement I: Article 356 of the Constitution of India can be proclaimed in the National Capital Territory of Delhi by the President of India.

Statement II: The President of India upon receipt of a report from the Lieutenant Governor of National Capital Territory of Delhi may by order suspend the special provisions with respect to Delhi.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is the correc t explanation for Statement I.
(b) Both Statement I and Statement II are correct, and Statement II is not the correct explanation for Statement I.
(c) Statement I is correct, but Statement II is incorrect.
(d) Statement I is incorrect, but Statement II is correct.

149. Things of value within the territorial waters or continental shelf and resources of the exclusive economic zone of India vest in which of the following authorities?

(a) The Union Government
(b) Respective state governments of coastal states
(c) The Parliament of India decides on case-by-case basis
(d) Both Union and state governments

150. Article 240 of the Indian Constitution gives the President the power to make regulations for certain Union territories. In this context, consider the following Union territories:

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2. Lakshadweep
3. Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu
4. National Capital Territory of Delhi

In how many of the above-mentioned Union territories can the President make regulations for peace, progress, and good government?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

151. Article 241 gives power to Parliament to extend the jurisdiction of any high court of state to nearby united territory. In this context, consider the following pairs:

Union Territory	Associated High Court
1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Calcutta High Court

2. Dadar and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	Gujarat High Court
3. Lakshadweep	Kerala High Court
4. Puducherry	Madras High Court

How many of the pairs are correctly matched?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

152. With reference to Land acquisition, consider the following:

The government acquires land/property-
1. of a minority educational institution.
2. held by a person under personal cultivation within statutory ceiling limits.
3. of a non-minority educational institution.
4. allotted for religious purposes.

In how many of the above cases is it the obligation of the government to pay compensation under the constitution?
(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

153. In context of Indian polity, consider the following statements:

Statement-I: The Constitution provides immunity to ministers for their official acts.

Statement-II: The Union ministers are not required to countersign the official acts of the President.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation of Statement I
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation of Statement-I
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

154. With regard to the benefits of inclusion of a language under the Eighth Schedule, consider the following statements:
1. It can become an alternative medium for All India and higher Central Services examinations.
2. It qualifies for atleast two major annual international awards for scholars of eminence in the concerned language
3. It qualifies for the proceedings of the Supreme Court of India.

Which of the above given statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None of the above

155. Which of the benefit mentioned below is/ are available for community once they have been granted minority status in India?
1. They can establish and administer educational institutions.
2. They are entitled to preferential treatment in employment opportunities and government contracts.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:
(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

156. Consider the following statements regarding the Union territory of Puducherry:
1. Fourteenth Amendment Act, 1962 incorporated Puducherry in the Indian Union.
2. The area of Union territory of Puducherry is scattered over three different states in the country.
3. The Union territory of Puducherry is a party in the Krishna River Water Disputes Tribunal.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?
(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

157. Consider the following terms:

Term	Meaning
1. Escheat	Transfer of property to the state upon death of person without will or heir.
2. Bona vacantia	Termination of property rights on failure to follow appropriate procedures.

3. Lapse	Transfer of property to the state, where the property is found without any owner.

How many of the pairs given above are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

158. With reference to the conduct of the All India Servants, consider the following:

1. Can engage in any trade or business
2. Can undertake employment in any other private establishment
3. Can endorse an electoral candidate on a good will
4. Can undertake honorary work of a social or charitable nature
5. Can participate in sports activities as an amateur

How many of the above activities can be performed by the All India Servants, without any prior permission from the appropriate government?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

159. With reference usage of the language in the courts and legislation of India, consider the following statements:

1. The appeals in the Supreme Court can be filed only in the English language.
2. A Chief Justice of the High Court can authorize the use of Hindi with respect to the judgements, decrees and orders of the high court.
3. A state legislature can prescribe the use of any language other than English, with respect to bills, acts or ordinances in the state.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

160. In essence, what does 'doctrine of escheat' mean?

(a) No property involved in a pending lawsuit can be transferred without the prior permission of the court.
(b) All private properties cannot be considered "material resources of the community" under Article 39(b) of the Constitution to be taken over by the State.
(c) The State cannot trespass into the private property of a citizen and then claim ownership of the land in the name of adverse possession.
(d) The government becomes the legal owner of the property when an individual dies intestate and does not have an heir.

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SOLUTIONS

9.1. Elections

1. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

According to the National Criminal Records Bureau (NCRB) data, between 2014 and 2020, cases **filed under Section 153A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC)** (incitement to hostility among different groups based on religion, race, place of birth, place of residence, language) increased sixfold or nearly 500%.

Statement 1 is correct: Hate speech has not been defined under any existing law in India. Even the Election Commission told the Supreme Court that **there is no law on "hate speech" in India**. Therefore, **it has been relying on provisions of the Indian Penal Code (Various Sections like 153A, 153B, 298 etc) and the Representation of the People Act,1951.**

Statement 2 is correct: Section 8 in the Representation of the People Act, 1951 disqualifies a person from contesting an election if he is convicted for illegitimate use of freedom of speech and expression. Such offence includes- offence of promoting enmity between different groups on ground of religion, race or offence of making statement creating or promoting enmity, hatred or ill-will between classes.

Statement 3 is correct: Constitution allows the State to make law to prevent defamation or incitement to an offence. As per Article 19(2) of the Constitution, **nothing prevents the State from making any law**, as long as such law imposes reasonable restrictions on the exercise of the right conferred by the said sub-clause in the interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality or in relation to contempt of court, **defamation or incitement to an offence.**

2. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

A person of can be **disqualified** for being elected as or being a member of parliament under three circumstances-

1. Under provisions of the Constitution.
2. Under the provisions of the Representation of People Act (1951) and
3. Under the provisions of the Tenth Schedule

1. The Parliament has laid down the following disqualifications in the Representation of People Act (1951):

i. **The person** must not have been found guilty of certain election offences or corrupt practices in the elections.

ii. He must not have been **convicted of any offence resulting in imprisonment for two or more years.** But, the detention of a person under a preventive detention law is not a disqualification. **Hence, Statement 3 is correct.**

iii. He must not have **failed to lodge an account of his election expenses** within the time. **Hence, Statement 1 is correct.**

iv. He must not have any interest in government contracts, works or services.

v. He must not be a director or managing agent nor hold an office of profit in a corporation in which the government has at least 25 per cent share.

vi. He must not have been **dismissed from government service for corruption** or disloyalty to the State. **Hence, Statement 2 is correct.**

vii. He must not have been convicted for promoting enmity between different groups or for the offence of bribery.

viii. He must not have been punished for preaching and practising social crimes such as untouchability, dowry and sati.

2. Under the Constitution, a person shall be disqualified for being elected as a member of Parliament:

i. if he **holds any office of profit under the Union or state** government (except that of a minister or any other office exempted by Parliament). **Hence, Statement 5 is incorrect.**

ii. if he is of unsound mind and stands so declared by a court.

iii. if he is an **undischarged insolvent. Hence, Statement 4 is incorrect.**

iv. if he is not a citizen of India or has voluntarily acquired the citizenship of a foreign state or is under any acknowledgement of allegiance to a foreign state; and

v. if he is so disqualified under any law made by Parliament.

3. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Postal ballots, also known as mail-in ballots, allow registered voters to cast their votes by mail instead of physically going to a polling station. This system serves as a convenient alternative for individuals unable to vote in person due to various circumstances.

The following Persons are entitled to vote by post:

(A) Absentee voters: Individuals unable to vote in person due to reasons like work commitments, illness, or **persons with disability, persons above the age of 85. Hence, Option 1 is correct.**

(B) service voters: Members of the armed forces, paramilitary forces, and government employees deployed on election duty far from their home constituencies.

(C) voters on election duty: government officials and polling staff assigned duties at polling stations other than their own.

(D) electors subjected to preventive detention: Individuals detained under preventive custody orders during the election period. **Hence, Option 2 is correct.**

(E) essential services covering polling day activities: Media persons with authorisation letters from the EC and those involved in **essential services such as metros, railways, and healthcare** have the option to vote using postal ballots. **Hence, Option 3 is correct.**

(F) Special voters are those holding offices that have been declared by the President to be offices to which sub-section (4) of Section 20 of the Representation of the People Act applies. Such offices include the **President, the Vice-President, governors of states and ministers of the Union or of states. Hence, Option 4 is correct.**

4. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023, seeks to put in place a mechanism for the appointment of Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners are not eligible for re-appointment. However, where an Election Commissioner is appointed as Chief Election Commissioner, his **term of office shall not be more than six years in aggregate** as the Election Commissioner and the Chief Election Commissioner.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners are **appointed by the President** on the recommendation of a **Selection Committee** consisting of—

(a) the Prime Minister

(b) the Leader of Opposition in the House of the People

(c) a Union Cabinet Minister to be nominated by the Prime Minister

Statement 3 is correct. The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners shall be paid a **salary which is equal to the salary of a Judge of the Supreme Court.**

Statement 4 is incorrect. The Chief Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a **Judge of the Supreme Court. The other Election Commissioners** shall not be removed from office except on the **recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner.**

5. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: If a party satisfies any one of the below-mentioned criteria, then they are called Registered Unrecognized Political Parties. The conditions are

- If the political party is newly registered.
- If the political parties have not secured enough percentage of votes in Assembly or General Elections to become a state party.
- Political Parties that **never contested in elections since they got registered** with the Election Commission.

Statement 2 is correct: These parties don't enjoy all the benefits extended to the recognized parties such as **reserving a separate symbol for the party,** subsidized land for party office etc.

6. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: First past the post system or simple majority system does not secure due representation to small groups or minority sections of the population as one can easily get elected with support of majority votes. On the other hand, under proportional representation almost all sections of people get due representation according to their population share.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Under the proportional representation electoral system there are high chances of the election of several parties with no one party having a majority in the legislature. This may result in unstable government and uncertainty as parties trade with each other to form coalitions and alliances. On the other hand, there is less likelihood of a proliferation of minor parties under first past the post system. This leads to the higher chances of formation a stable government under first past the post system. Hence the statement is incorrect.

7. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

A by-election, also known as a special election, is held to fill a vacant seat in a legislative body between regularly scheduled elections. It occurs when a seat becomes vacant due to resignation, death, or disqualification of a sitting member, ensuring continuous representation until the next general election.

Statement 1 is correct: As per the Representation of the People Act (1951), if the remaining term of a member concerning a vacancy is less than one year from the date of the vacancy, there is no necessity for conducting a by-election. In such cases, the seat remains vacant until the regular general elections are held.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Model Code of Conduct does apply during bye-elections as well. It would be enforced in the entire district covering the constituency going for bye-elections. Though in case the constituency is comprised in state capital/metropolitan cities/municipal corporations then MCC would be applicable in the area of concerned constituency only.

8. Solution: (c)

Exp) option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Under the Electoral Trusts Scheme of 2013, **any company registered under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956, can form an electoral trust.** Electoral Trusts (ET) is a Trust set up by companies with the sole objective to distribute the contributions received by it from other Companies and individuals to the political parties.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Under Section 17CA of the Income-tax Act, 1961, **any citizen of India**, a company registered in India, or a firm or **Hindu Undivided Family** or association of persons living in India, can donate to an electoral trust.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Electoral trusts are required to **donate 95%** of the contributions received by them to Political Parties.

9. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Recently, a poll panel headed by the former President of India Ramnath Kovind regarding simultaneous elections for Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies (SLAs) submitted its report to the President of India.

The poll panel recommended that the power of Parliament under **Article 327** should be expanded to include "conduct of simultaneous elections" as well.

Options 1,2,3 and 4 are correct: Article 327 of the Indian Constitution gives Parliament the power to make laws relating to elections to Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, and to either house of State legislatures. This means that the Constitution of India empowers the Parliament to make laws relating to elections **Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, State Legislative Assemblies and State Legislative Councils.**

10. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

As per the ECI's Political Parties and Election Symbols, 2019 handbook, a political party would be considered a national party if :

- it is 'recognised' as a state party in four or more states; or
- it secures 6% of total valid votes polled in any four or more states at a general election to the Lok Sabha or to the legislative Assembly elections and in addition, it wins four seats in the Lok Sabah from any state or states; or
- it wins at least 2% of the total seats in the Lok Sabha at a general election and these candidates are elected from three states.

11. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer,

On September 27, 2013, the Supreme Court of India declared that voters should have the option to select "none of the above" when casting their ballots, and it mandated that the Election Commission install a button for this option in all electronic voting machines.

Statement 1 is incorrect. In India, re-election does not take place in the instance where NOTA gets maximum votes. If NOTA votes get the maximum number of votes in a constituency, the next candidate with the second-most number of votes is declared the winner.

Statement 2 is correct. Supreme Court of India has disallowed NOTA in Rajya Sabha elections stating that, "The option of NOTA may serve as an expression of rejection of candidate in direct elections but in respect of the election to the Council of States which is a different one as discussed above, it would not only undermine the purity of democracy but also serve the Satan of defection and corruption."

Statement 3 is incorrect. After the Supreme Court order in September 2013, the Election Commission added the NOTA button on the EVMs as the last option on the voting panel. One ballot unit has 16 buttons.

12. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect. In the Proportional Representation (PR) system, a party gets the same proportion of seats as its proportion of votes.

Option b is incorrect. In the plurality system, the candidate who secures the highest number of votes in a constituency is declared elected. In this system, **the winning candidate need not secure a majority of the votes.**

Option c is incorrect. In a Parliamentary system, the leader of the majority party in the Lok Sabha becomes the Prime Minister.

Option d is correct. In the First Past the Post (FPTP) system, the candidate who secures the highest number of votes in a constituency is declared elected. In this system, whoever secures more votes than all other candidates, is declared elected. **In this system, the winning candidate need not secure a majority of the votes.** It is called the First Past the Post as the candidate crosses the winning post first of all, is the winner. **This method is also called the Plurality System**. This is the method of election prescribed by the Constitution of India for Lok Sabha and State Assemblies.

13. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

NOTA is an option on Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) that allows voters to reject all the candidates contesting in an election, without abstaining from voting.

Statement 1 is incorrect: NOTA was not available during the 2004 Lok Sabha elections. It was introduced in India following a landmark judgment by the **Supreme Court in 2013 (People's Union for Civil Liberties v. Union of India),** which directed the Election Commission to include the NOTA option in electronic voting machines (EVMs). It was first implemented in the **2013 State Assembly Elections** and later introduced at the national level in the **2014 General Elections to the Lok Sabha.**

Statement 2 is correct: NOTA is **not applicable in Rajya Sabha** elections because these are indirect elections where elected MLAs cast open (non-secret) votes, often under party whips. In **Shailesh Manubhai Parmar v. Election Commission of India Through the Chief Election**

Commissioner Case, 2018 the Supreme Court ruled that NOTA is not permissible in such indirect elections, as it could undermine the party-based voting system and accountability of legislators.

14. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) or Verifiable Paper Record (VPR) is a method of providing feedback to voters using a ballotless voting system. VVPATs are a **second line of verification** and are particularly useful in the time when allegations around Electronic Voting Machines' tampering crop up.

Options 1 and 3 are correct: A VVPAT is intended as an **independent verification system** for voting machines **designed to allow voters to verify that their vote was cast correctly,** to detect possible election fraud or malfunction, and to provide a means to audit the stored electronic results. It **contains the name of the candidate (for whom the vote has been cast) and symbol of the party/individual candidate.**

When a vote is cast, a slip is printed **containing the serial number, name and symbol of the candidate** and remains exposed through a transparent window for 7 seconds. Thereafter, this printed slip automatically gets cut and falls in the sealed drop box of the VVPAT.

Printed slip of VVPAT contains the following information:

- Candidate Serial Number
- Name of the Candidate
- Symbol of party or Candidate
- Session Number
- VVPAT ID

These details could be viewed by the voter.

Options 2 and 4 are incorrect: The **names of the party** to which the candidate (for whom the votes have been cast) belong **and the names of the elector are not mentioned** in the VVPAT slips in India.

15. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Election Commission possesses the power to register a political party under Section 29A of Part-IV-A of the Representation of the People Act but it does not possess the power to de-register it.

However the **Supreme Court** has provided **certain exemptions under which the Election Commission of India in its ancillary power can undo the registration of a political party.**

1. If a party does not have faith and allegiance to the Constitution of India or to the principles of socialism, secularism and democracy, or it would not uphold the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India .
2. Where a political party obtained its registration by playing fraud on the Commission,
3. If Political party concerned is declared unlawful by the Central Government under the provision of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 or any other similar law

Option 1 is correct: The Election Commission of India (ECI) can initiate action if it is found that a political party secured its registration through **fraudulent documents or misrepresentation of facts.** This is **one of the ground under which Election Commission of India in its ancillary power can undo the registration of the party.**

Option 2 is correct: If a party is banned or declared **unlawful under laws like the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA),** it ceases to have legal status. This is **one of the ground under which Election Commission of India in its ancillary power can undo the registration of the party.**

Option 3 is incorrect: Although the ECI requires parties to conduct regular internal elections and submit reports under their own constitutions, failure to do so doenot give any power to Election commission of India to deregister the party.

Option 4 is incorrect: Not contesting elections for any duration—whether two years or ten—is not a ground for deregistration.**The Law Commission in its 255th report (2015) on 'Electoral reforms'** has also recommended amendments for de-registration of a political party if it fails to contest elections for 10 consecutive years.

16. Solution: (c)

Exp) option c is the correct answer.

Political parties are voluntary associations or organised groups of individuals who share the same political views and who try to gain political power through constitutional means and who desire to work for promoting the national interest.

A political party shall be eligible to be recognized as National party, if, and only if, any of the following conditions is fulfilled:

(i) The candidates set up by the party, in **any four or more States**, at the last dgeneral election to the House of the People, or to the Legislative Assembly of the State concerned, have secured **not less than six percent of the total valid votes polled in each of those States at that general election**; and, in addition, it has returned at least four members to the House of the People at the aforesaid last general election from any State or States; or

(ii) At the **last general election to the House of the People, the party has won at least two percent of the total number of seats in the House of the People**, any fraction exceeding half being counted as one; and the **party 's candidates have been elected to that House from not less than three** States; or **(Statement 2 is correct)**

(iii) **The party is recognized as State party in at least four States. (Statement 1 is correct)**

Statement 3 is incorrect: With respect to recognition as a State party the condition is- At the last general election to the House of the People from the State, or at the last general election to the Legislative Assembly of the State, the

candidates set up by the Party have secured not less than eight percent of the total valid votes polled in the State.

17. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Delimitation literally means the act or process of fixing limits or boundaries of territorial constituencies in a country or a province having a legislative body. The job of delimitation is assigned to a high-power body. Such a body is known as the Delimitation **Commission.**

Statement a is incorrect: It is not necessary to setup Delimitation Commission before every general election to Lok Sabha. In India, such Delimitation Commissions have been constituted 4 times – in 1952 under the Delimitation Commission Act, 1952, in 1963 under Delimitation Commission Act, 1962, in 1973 under Delimitation Act, 1972 and in 2002 under Delimitation Act, 2002.

Statement b is correct: The Delimitation Commission plays an important role in ensuring the representation of Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) in the Lok Sabha **(Article 330)** and State Legislative Assemblies **(Article 332).** The commission is responsible for **reserving seats for SC and ST communities** in accordance with the constitutional provision.

Statement c is incorrect: The orders of the Delimitation Commission, **have the force of law** and **cannot be modified** by **Lok Sabha or any State Assembly**. This ensures that **delimitation remains an independent and non-partisan exercise**, free from political interference.

Statement d is incorrect: The orders of commission come into force on a date to be specified by the President of India in this behalf.

18. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: To ensure the independence of the Election Commission Article 324 (5) of the Constitution provides that the **Chief Election Commissioner shall not be removed from his office except in like manner** as a Judge of the Supreme Court. However, Article 324 (5) does not provide similar protection to the **Election Commissioners,** and it merely says that **they cannot be removed from office except on the recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner** and **this provision has not changed so far by the Government of India.** The **Seventeenth Constitutional Amendment Act (CAA), 1964** prohibited the **acquisition of land** under personal cultivation unless the market value of the land is paid as compensation and included **44 more acts in the Ninth Schedule** of the constitution.

Statement 2 is correct: In 2003, the **Election Commission** issued an order directing every candidate seeking election to the Parliament or a State legislature **to declare his/her - own assets, spouses' assets and dependants' assets.**

Statement 3 is correct: In 2020 the Supreme court in relation to the Bihar Assembly election, ruled that **parties must publish criminal records of its candidates in their website and to publish such details in at least two newspapers.** The court held that such details must be published by political parties within 48 hours of their selection or at least two weeks before the first date for filing of nomination papers.

Statement 4 is correct: Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1951, states that a candidate can be disqualified, if he/she was convicted of any offences which amounts to at least 2-year imprisonment, but it provided exemption stating that **disqualification will not take effect for three months** after his/her conviction. However, the **Supreme court has struck down this exception** in the **Lily Thomas case and enabled immediate disqualification after conviction of offences** which amounts to at least 2-year imprisonment.

19. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Representation of the People Act, 1950 lay down the structural framework for conducting elections in India, especially regarding **voter eligibility, electoral rolls, seat allocation, and delimitation.**

Option 1 is correct: The RPA, 1950 lays down provisions regarding the **allocation of seats in both the Lok Sabha (House of the People) and the Legislative Assemblies of states** and union territories. It also includes details about the delimitation of constituencies, which determines the geographic boundaries for elections to ensure fair representation based on population.

Option 2 is correct: The Act governs the **preparation, revision, and maintenance of electoral rolls for each constituency.** It outlines the eligibility criteria for voter registration, such as age, citizenship, and disqualifications.

Option 3 is incorrect: The Representation of the People Act, 1950 does not contain specific provisions for the procedure of registration of political parties. This aspect is primarily covered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

Option 4 is incorrect: The Representation of the People Act, 1950, mainly deals with the disqualifications for registration as a voter (Section 16). **The disqualifications for elected representatives are primarily covered under Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, along with other related provisions in that Act.**

20. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Model Code of Conduct(MCC) issued by Election commission of India(ECI), is a set of guidelines issued to regulate political parties and candidates prior to elections. The rules range from issues related to speeches, polling day, polling booths, portfolios, the content of election manifestos, processions, and general conduct, so that free and fair elections are conducted. The MCC is not a statutory document and hence not enforceable by any laws passed by the Parliament.

Statement 1 is correct: The Model Code of Conduct evolved as part of the ECI's drive to ensure free and fair elections and was the result of a consensus among major political parties. **The MCC, which traces its origins back to the assembly elections in Kerala in 1960, has evolved over the past six decades to its present form. It has no statutory backing.** The ECI uses moral sanction or censure for its enforcement.

Statement 2 is correct: Model code of conduct comes into force immediately when the election dates are declared by the Election Commission and remains till the results are announced.

Statement 3 is correct: Model code of Conduct lays down a list of dos and don'ts for the electoral candidate as well as the political parties ahead of elections. For instance, once the dates for the Lok Sabha elections are announced, ministers and other authorities are also restricted from laying foundation stones or initiating projects or schemes of any kind, except civil servants.

21. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Constitution does not specify the castes or tribes which are to be called the Scheduled Caste (SCs) or the Scheduled Tribe (ST). It leaves to the President the power to specify as to what castes or tribes in each state and union territory are to be treated as SCs and STs. There are several special provisions available under Indian Constitution for SCs and STs. The reservation of seats for SC/STs is considered as one of the significant tools of affirmative action against historical and social injustices to these identified classes.

Option 1 is correct: Article 330 of the Constitution provides for reservation of seats for those from SCs/STs in the House of the People. Similarly, Article 332 of the Constitution provides for reservation of seats for those from SCs/STs in the state legislative assemblies. As per Article 334, reservation of seats for the two communities will cease after expiry of the period prescribed under this provision. Initially, it put a cap of 10 years for the cessation of the reservation, which was periodically increased. The 104th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2019 extended the reservation of seats in Lok Sabha for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) until January 25, 2030.

Option 2 is incorrect: The Constitution provides for reservation of seats to be filled by direct elections in the House of the People (Lok Sabha) but **the similar reservation of seats to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are not applicable to the Rajya Sabha.**

Option 3 is incorrect: The Constitution provides for reservation of seats to be filled by direct elections in State Legislative Assemblies for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. **The similar reservation of seats to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes are not applicable to the State legislative council.**

Option 4 is correct: Article 243D of Indian Constitution (added by 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992), **provides for the reservation of seats for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in every panchayat (i.e., at all the three levels including Gram Panchayats) in proportion of their population to the total population in the panchayat area.** These reserved sats can be distributed across different constituencies within the Panchayat through rotation.

22. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Representation of the People Act, 1951 provides for the **conduct of elections** to the Houses of Parliament and to the Houses of the State Legislature, the **provisions regarding qualification and disqualification** for the membership, and **remedies of disputes** in connection with such elections.

Statement 1 is correct. If the candidate is convicted for any **offence resulting in imprisonment for two or more years** (except for the detention under a preventive detention law) then, he/she is disqualified under RPA act 1951.

Statement 2 is correct. If the candidate has been **dismissed from government service for corruption or disloyalty to the State** then, he/she is disqualified under RPA act 1951.

Statement 3 is correct. If the candidate has been **punished for preaching and practising social crimes such as untouchability, dowry and sati etc.** then, he/she is disqualified under RPA act 1951.

23. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Electoral Roll or 'voter list', is a list of persons registered as electors residing in a constituency.

Under Article 324 of the Constitution the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of the electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to the parliament and to the Legislative of every State and the elections to the offices of President & Vice-President are vested in the Election Commission which consists of the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners.

Option a is incorrect: The Election Commission designates the head of district administration, variously known as Collector, Deputy Commissioner or District Magistrate, **as District Election Officer(DEO)** of the district concerned. District Election Officer is responsible for providing polling stations and the publication of the list of polling stations and for providing polling staff at elections.

Option b is correct: Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) is the statutory authority to prepare the electoral roll of the Constituency under his charge. According to Section 13B of the Representation of the People Act 1950, the electoral roll for each constituency shall be prepared and revised by an **Electoral Registration Officer**, who shall be such officer of Government or of a local authority as the Election Commission may, in consultation with the State Government designate or nominate in this behalf.

Option c is incorrect: The Presiding Officer with the assistance of polling officers conducts the poll at a polling station. The District Election Officer appoints the Presiding Officers and the Polling Officers. In the case of Union

Territories such appointments are made by the Returning Officers.

Option d is incorrect: The Election Commission of India nominates officers of Government as Observers (General Observers and Election Expenditure Observers) for Parliamentary and assembly constituencies.

24. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

To form a political party, any association or body of individuals must register with the Election Commission of India under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. Following this, a party could be classified as either recognised or unrecognized.

Statement 1 is correct. Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs) are parties that are either newly registered, have not received a sufficient percentage of votes in the Assembly or general election to become a State party, **or have never contested elections since registration.**

Statement 2 is incorrect. Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs) are not eligible for free copies of electoral rolls, free authorisation for broadcast/telecast facilities over All India Radio/Doordarshan during Assembly and general elections, or subsidized land for party offices.

Statement 3 is correct. Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs) are not provided with an exclusive allocation of a reserved election symbol. They must select from a list of 'free symbols' provided by the Election Commission. The Symbols Order of 1968 provides RUPP with common symbols.

25. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Election expenditure limit is the maximum amount a candidate can legally spend on their campaign, covering expenses such as public meetings, rallies, advertisements, posters, banners, and vehicles. Candidates must meticulously account for these expenses, ensuring transparency and fairness in the electoral process.

Statements 1 and 2 are correct. For Lok Sabha constituencies, the expenditure limit for candidates is restricted to Rs 95 lakh, while for Assembly seats, the limit is Rs 40 lakh. While the Election Commission of India (ECI) imposes limits on the amount a candidate can spend during elections, **there is no specific limit on the expenditure that a political party can incur during its election campaigns.**

Statement 3 is correct. Section 77 of the Representation of People Act, 1951 requires candidates to keep accurate records of all election-related expenses between the declaration of elections and the results date. The law requires candidates to submit an account of their election expenses within 30 days and keep an original copy.

The **election commission has the authority to disqualify a candidate for three years from the date of the order if they fail to file an account of election expenses (RP Act 1951, Section 10A).**

26. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 82 of India's Constitution requires Parliament to pass a Delimitation Act following each census. The Central Government then establishes a Delimitation Commission to determine the boundaries of Parliamentary Constituencies. The Indian President conducted the first delimitation exercise (with the assistance of the Election Commission) in 1950-51. The Delimitation Commission Act was enacted in 1952.

There have been four Delimitation Commissions: 1952, 1963, 1972, and 2002.

Statement 1 is correct. The main task of the Delimitation Commission is to redraw assembly and Lok Sabha constituency boundaries based on the most recent census. The commission does not change the representation of each state as the number of seats were frozen on the 1971 Census in order to encourage population control measures. This was done through the 42nd Amendment Act till the year 2000 and was extended by the 84th Amendment Act till 2026, but it does alter the number of SC and ST seats in a state.

Statement 2 is correct. The Delimitation Commission is a high-level body in India responsible for redrawing constituency boundaries. **The commission is appointed by the central government and collaborates with the Election Commission of India.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. Who is or has been a Judge of the Supreme Court chaired Delimitation Commission. The Delimitation Commission comprises three members. Other members are-

1) Chief Election Commissioner, or an Election Commissioner nominated by the Chief Election Commissioner.
2) State Election Commissioner of concerned State.

Statement 4 is correct. The Delimitation Commission's orders are laid before the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies, but they cannot be modified by them. The orders of the Delimitation Commission are legally binding and cannot be challenged in court. The Constitution requires that the Commission's decisions be final and cannot be challenged in court, as doing so would indefinitely delay an election.

27. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The VVPAT machine is attached to the ballot unit of the EVM, and provides visual verification for the vote cast by a voter by printing a slip of paper with the voter's choice on it. The idea is that by allowing for a physical verification of the electronically cast vote, both voters and political parties have greater faith in the process and that their vote is being recorded correctly.

Statement 1 is correct. The VVPAT was used for the first time in all 21 polling stations of the Noksen Assembly constituency of **Nagaland in 2013,** after which the EC

decided to introduce VVPATs in a phased manner. By June 2017, there was 100% adoption of VVPATs.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The VVPAT slip contains the **candidate's serial number, name, and party symbol,** which is displayed in the machine behind a glass window, giving the voter seven seconds to verify her vote. **It does not contain the name of Voter.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. In February 2018, the EC mandated the counting of VVPAT slips of one randomly selected polling station per Assembly constituency. This was increased to five polling stations per Assembly seat, following a Supreme Court judgment in April 2019. The five polling stations are selected by a draw of lots by the Returning Officer concerned, in the presence of candidates/ their agents. **There is not condition for verification of atleast 20% VVPAT slips.** However, currently there is an ongoing case in Supreme Court seeking order for 100% verification of VVPAT slips.

28. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

Article 326 of the Indian Constitution guarantees the **right to vote to every citizen above** the **age of 18,** subject to **reasonable restrictions** laid out in **laws** such as the **Representation of the People Act, 1951.**

Option 1 is incorrect: Undertrial prisoners, like all other prisoners, **are not allowed to vote** in **India.** This **prohibition is in place regardless of the conviction status,** aiming to maintain the integrity of electoral processes.

Option 2 is incorrect: Convicted prisoners are disqualified from voting by the **Representation of the People Act, 1951.** This is a standard practice in many democracies to restrict voting rights following a felony conviction.

Only those who are out on bail can vote (Election Commission of India 2019)

Option 3 is correct: NRIs can vote in Indian elections, but they must be physically present at their registered constituency to vote. This was established to ensure their participation in the democratic process despite residing abroad.

Option 4 is incorrect: Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) do not have voting rights as they are **not Indian citizens.** Voting rights are closely tied to citizenship status in India.

Important Tips

1) Representation of the People Act, 1951: This act outlines the qualifications and disqualifications for voters as well as the conduct of elections. It specifically disqualifies convicted prisoners, reinforcing the separation of civil rights from criminal penalties.
2) Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961: These rules provide additional details on election mechanics, including provisions for postal voting, which extend to those under preventive detention.

29. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Returning Officer plays a **pivotal role in the election management.** A Returning Officer is called so because he **holds the election in the constituency and returns the result.** A **Returning Officer** is responsible for overseeing election **in one constituency may be two constituencies at the most,** as directed by the Election Commission (EC). This is to ensure dedicated focus and management of the electoral procedures within that specific area

Statement 1 is correct: The **Election Commission (EC) appoints the Returning Officer** and Assistant Returning Officer **for a constituency in consultation with the governments of the State** or Union Territory as the case may be.

Statement 2 is correct: Administering oath or affirmation to candidates after they have filed their nomination papers is one of the important duties of returning officer. The other one includes-

1. dissemination of information contained in the affidavits filed by the candidates;
2. Scrutiny of nomination paper;
3. Recording of reasons in brief for rejecting any nomination paper;
4. Receipt of notices for withdrawal of candidatures;

30. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

An Election petition is a procedure for inquiring into the validity of the election results of Parliamentary or local government elections. In other words, it is a means under law to challenge the election of a candidate in a Parliamentary, Assembly or local election.

Statement 1 is incorrect. An election petition can be filed by any candidate, or an elector, to the authorized officer of the High Court. An elector is a person who was entitled to vote at the election to which the election petition relates, whether he/she has voted at such election or not.

Statement 2 is correct. Election petitions are filed in the High Court of the particular state in which the election was conducted. Therefore, only the High Courts have the original jurisdiction on deciding on election petitions.

31. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Model Code of Conduct is a set of guidelines issued by the Election Commission of India (ECI) to ensure fair elections in India. It was **agreed to by all the political parties in 1968.** ECI first effectively put to use the Model Code of Conduct in 1991.

Statement 1 is correct: The Model Code of Conduct for the guidance of candidates and political parties **comes immediately into effect after the announcement of the schedule of elections** by ECI **and remains till the results are announced.** The MCC applies to all elections from the Lok Sabha and state Assemblies to local bodies. It is also

applicable for State Legislative Council elections from Local Bodies, and Graduates' and Teachers' Constituencies.

1. MCC lays down broad guidelines as to how the political parties and candidates should conduct themselves during the election campaign.
2. **All organisations, committees, corporations, commissions** (for ex. Transport authorities, Jal boards) **funded wholly or partially by the Centre or State are bound by the MCC.**
3. While listed political parties and candidates are bound to follow the MCC, even non-political organisations that hold campaigns favouring a political party or candidate are bound to follow specific guidelines mentioned by the EC

Statement 2 is incorrect: During general elections to House of People (Lok Sabha), the code is applicable throughout the country. During general elections to the Legislative Assembly (Vidhan Sabha), the code is applicable in the entire State. **During bye-elections, in case the constituency is comprised in State Capital/Metropolitan Cities/Municipal Corporations, then the code would be applicable in the area of concerned Constituency only. In all other cases the MCC would be enforced in the entire district(s) covering the Constituency going for bye-election(s).**

32. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

In the Proportional Representation (PR) system, political parties get representation, that is number of seats, in legislatures in proportion to the share of votes they get in elections. Proportional representation by single transferable vote allows voters to choose the most preferred candidate by ranking candidates in order of preference and casting only one vote.

Option 1 is correct: The **Presidential election is conducted using the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote** wherein the voting is done by secret ballot. Unlike general elections, where electors vote for a single candidate, the voters of the Presidential election can vote for as many candidates as in the fray. A ballot paper is presented to the Electoral College, and the electors must write the order of preferences against the names of candidates on the ballot paper.

Option 2 is correct: The **Vice President of India is elected indirectly by** an electoral college consisting of members of both houses of Parliament- the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. The election follows **the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote** and voting is conducted by secret ballot.

Option 3 is correct: Proportional representation by means of the Single Transferable Vote system (STV) is followed for Rajya Sabha elections. Every State has a specific quota of seats in the Rajya Sabha. The members are elected by the respective State legislative assemblies. The voters are the MLAs in that State. Every voter is required to rank candidates according to her or his preference. To be declared the winner, a candidate must secure a minimum quota of votes, which is determined by a formula:

$$\left(\frac{\text{Total votes polled}}{\text{Total number of candidates to be elected} + 1}\right) + 1$$

Option 4 is incorrect: The method of proportional representation is not followed in the election of the Lok Sabha Speaker. The **Speaker of Lok Sabha is elected by its members from amongst them with a simple majority.** The election process is regulated by Rule 7 of the 'Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business' in the Lok Sabha. The **date of the election of the Speaker is fixed by the President.** The practice has been to elect the Speaker during the first session of the new House.

Option 5 is correct: The **members of the State Legislative Council are elected in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of a single transferable vote.**

33. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Election systems are the methods and processes used to conduct elections and determ3ine winning candidate. It can be broadly categorized into two types: First past the Post system (FPTP) and Proportional Representation (PR) systems. In the First Past the Post (FPTP) system, the candidate with the highest number of votes in a constituency is declared the winner, while in the Proportional Representation (PR) system, seats are allocated based on the proportion of votes each party receives.

Statement I is correct: Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assembly elections in India are conducted using the First Past the Post (FPTP) system, where the candidate with the most votes in a constituency wins the seat. The **First Past the Post (FPTP)** system is not explicitly mentioned in the Indian Constitution. Representation of the People Act, 1951 provides the legal framework for conducting elections in India based on FPTP system.

Statement II is correct: The **FPTP** system often results in majority (or coalition) governments because it tends to give larger political parties a greater share of the seats relative to their vote percentage. Thus, it facilitates the **formation of a stable government** that enable parliamentary government to function smoothly and effectively, unlike the **Proportional Representation (PR)** system, where parties may require coalitions, potentially leading to instability.

Statement III is correct: The FPTP system allows voters to choose not just between parties, but specific candidates. Thus, in constituency-based systems **like FPTP, voters know their representative and can hold them directly accountable.** In contrast, in systems like **Proportional Representation (PR), voters typically select a party,** and representatives are elected from party lists. As a result, there is no single representative directly accountable for a specific locality.

Since the FPTP system provides stable governments and ensures that representatives are accountable to the people, India has adopted it for Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assembly elections. **Hence option a is correct:** Both Statement II and Statements III are correct and both of them explain Statement I.

34. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Exit polls are surveys conducted with voters as they leave a polling station during an election. These polls **provide early trends of election results** before official results are announced. The **inception of exit polls in India traces back to 1957,** during the second Lok Sabha elections.

Statement 1 is incorrect: In India, the regulation of exit polls is primarily governed by Section 126A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. It **prohibits the conduct of exit polls and the dissemination of their results until 30 minutes after the last polling booth closes** in the final phase.

- As per the Election Commission of India (ECI), exit polls can only be published after polling has closed.

Statement 2 is correct: The Election Commission of India (ECI) oversees the regulations surrounding exit polls. The ECI has issued guidelines **under Article 324 of the Constitution,** which **forbid newspapers and news channels from publishing pre-election surveys and exit poll results during the voting period.**

35. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Article 324 of the Indian Constitution provides for an independent Election Commission for the **'superintendence, direction and control** of preparation of the electoral roll and the conduct of elections to Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha, Office of President and Vice President in India.

The Election of Commission presently consists of the Chief Election Commissioner and two Election Commissioners.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners are **appointed by the President of India.** The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023 provides that they are appointed by the President **on the recommendation of a three-member Selection Committee, comprising the Prime Minister, the union home minister and the Leader of the largest opposition** in the Lok Sabha.

Statement 2 is incorrect. As per Section 10 of the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Amendment Act, 1993:-

(1) The Election Commission may be by unanimous decision, regulate the procedure for transaction of to business as also allocation of its business amongst the Chief Election Commissioner and their Election Commissioners.

(2) **Save as provided in sub section (i) all business of the Election Commission shall, as far as possible, be transacted unanimously.**

(3) **Subject to the provisions of sub-section (ii), if the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners differ in opinion on any matter, such matter shall be decided by according to the opinion of the majority. So, it is incorrect to say that the Chief Election Commissioner has the authority to veto the decision of other Election Commissioners on Election Commissioners differ in opinion on that matter.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. The Chief Election Commissioner can be removed from office **in like manner and on like grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court.** The Constitution of India provides that a judge of the Supreme Court can be removed only by an order of the President if Parliament has passed a motion for such removal. A judge of the Supreme Court may be removed from office **only on grounds of 'proved misbehaviour or incapacity'.**

Important Tips

- Article 324 of the Constitution says the Election Commission shall consist of the Chief Election Commissioner and such number of other Election Commissioners as the President may fix from time to time. This provision is subject to any law made in that behalf by Parliament.
- The Constitution ensures the security of the tenure of the Chief Election Commissioner. S/He is appointed for a six-year term or continue till the age of 65, whichever is earlier.
- They enjoy the same status and receive salary and perks as available to Judges of the Supreme Court of India.

36. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. A candidate of a registered unrecognized political party can contest the election. The difference lies in the number of proposers required for the nomination for a candidate of a recognized National or state party (only 1 proposer is required for the nomination) and an independent candidate or a candidate of a recognized unregistered political party (10 proposers required for the nomination).

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Election Commission (EC) **reviews after every 10 years,** instead of every year, if a political party is eligible for a state or national party status that secures their poll symbols, among other benefits. Presently, there are **only six recognised national parties in India.** They are the BJP, the Congress, the National People's Party (NPP), the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M), the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), and the AAP.

A political party would be considered (if it satisfies any of the below conditions) a national party if:

- it is 'recognised' in four or more states as a state party; or
- if its candidates polled at least 6% of total valid votes in any four or more states in the last Lok Sabha or Assembly elections and has at least four MPs in the last Lok Sabha polls; or

- if it has won at least 2% of the total seats in the Lok Sabha from not less than three different states.

Important Tips

Registered political parties in enjoy the following legal benefits:

(a) tax exemption for donations received under Section 13A of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

(b) common symbol for contesting general elections to the Lok Sabha/State Assemblies.

(c) twenty 'star campaigners' during the election campaign.

(d) preference in the matter of allotment of free symbols.

37. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Under Article 324 of the Constitution of India, the Election Commission of India is vested with the power of superintendence, direction and control of conducting the elections to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.

Statement 1 is correct: The Chief Electoral Officer of a state/ Union Territory is authorised to supervise the election work in the state/Union Territory subject to the overall superintendence, direction and control of the Election Commission.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Returning Officer of a Parliamentary or assembly constituency is responsible for the conduct of elections in the Parliamentary or assembly constituency concerned. The Election Commission of India nominates or designates an officer of the Government or a local authority as the Returning Officer for each of the assembly and parliamentary constituencies.

Statement 3 is correct: The Electoral Registration Officer is responsible for the preparation of electoral rolls for a Parliamentary / assembly constituency. The Election Commission of India, in consultation with the state / UT government, appoints an officer of the government or the local authorities as the Electoral Registration Officer.

Statement 4 is incorrect: The Presiding Officer with the assistance of polling officers conducts the poll at a polling station. The District Election Officer appoints the Presiding Officers and the Polling Officers. In the case of Union Territories, such appointments are made by the Returning Officers.

38. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer

Statement 1 is incorrect: Opinion polls is a pre-election survey to know voters' views on a range of election-related issues. Voters are asked various questions to analyse issues affecting them and the outcome of election.

Exit poll is an opinion survey regarding how electors have voted at an election. These are conducted outside polling booths to predict and gauge voting behaviour and simultaneous outcome of election results.

Statement 2 is correct: Section 126A of the Representation of the People's Act, 1951, puts a ban on exit polls from the period between the commencements of the poll until the closing of the final phase of the poll.

Statement 3 is correct: Currently, exit polls can be telecast only after the conclusion of the last phase of the election.

Important Tips

As per law no person shall conduct any exit poll and publish or publicise by means of the print or electronic media or disseminate in any other manner, the result of any exit poll during the period notified by the Election Commission in this regard. Further, any person who contravenes this provision shall be punishable with imprisonment of upto two years or with fine or with both.

39. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Representation of People Act, 1951 contains provisions relating to qualifications and disqualifications for membership of Parliament and State Legislature, notification of general election, administrative machinery for the conduct of election, registration of political parties, conduct of elections, free supply of certain material to candidates of recognised political parties, disputes regarding election, corrupt practices and electoral offences, bye-elections and time limit for filling vacancies.

Statement 2 is correct: As per section 8 of Representation of the People Act, 1951 anyone sentenced to imprisonment of two years or more faces disqualification, from the date of such conviction and a bar of six years is imposed for contesting elections after serving a term in prison. The RPA itself provides a remedy through the Election Commission. Under Sec. 11 of the Act, the EC may record reasons and either remove, or reduce the period of, a person's disqualification. The EC exercised this power for Sikkim Chief Minister P.S. Tamang, who served a one-year sentence for corruption, and reduced his disqualification so as to contest a byelection and remain in office.

Statement 3 is correct: As per Section 33(7) of the RPA (Representation of the People Act), 1951, one candidate can contest from a maximum of two constituencies. More than two constituencies were allowed until 1996 when the RPA was amended to set the cap at two constituencies.

Important Tips

Section 62(5) of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, prevents persons with criminal background (in confinement) from participating in election.

Sections 123(3A) and 125 of the RPA bars the promotion of animosity on the grounds of race, religion, community, caste, or language in reference to elections and include it under corrupt electoral practices.

40. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Election Commission of India (ECI) is a Constitutional body that is vested with the power of superintendence, direction and control of the conduct of elections to the

Parliament, the State Legislature and the offices of President and Vice-President.

Statement 1 is correct. During the election process, the administrative officers of the State and central governments are assigned election related duty. In this respect, **the Election Commission has full control over them. The EC can transfer the officers** or stop their transfers. It can take action against them for failing to act in a non-partisan manner.

Statement 2 is correct. ECI determines the timing of elections and prepares the election schedule. The election schedule includes the notification of elections, date from which nominations can be filed, last date for filing nominations, last date of scrutiny, last date of withdrawal, date of polling and date of counting and declaration of results.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Delimitation is the act of redrawing the boundaries of Lok Sabha and State Assembly constituencies to represent changes in population. **Delimitation is carried out by an independent statutory body called the Delimitation Commission. The Delimitation Commission** is appointed by the President of India and works in collaboration with the Election Commission of India. It is appointed for the purpose of **drawing up the boundaries of constituencies all over the country.** It also fixes and decides on the quota of constituencies to be reserved in each State for SC or ST. After drawing the boundaries, the Delimitation Commission looks at the composition of population in each constituency. Those constituencies that have the highest proportion of Scheduled Tribe population are reserved for ST.

Statement 4 is incorrect. The Election Commission of India is not responsible for the conduct of local body elections. The State Election Commissioners are responsible for the conduct of local body elections and the preparation of electoral rolls for these elections. Article 243 K & Article 243 ZA of the Constitution establishes a State Election Commission in every state with the powers of 'superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for, and the conduct of, all elections to the Panchayats and Municipalities in the State.'

41. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Democratic elections are the cornerstone of representative democracy, providing citizens with the opportunity to choose their leaders and hold them accountable. To ensure fairness, transparency, and equal participation, certain key principles must guide the electoral process. These principles safeguard the legitimacy of elections and the democratic system as a whole.

Option 1 is correct: Every vote should have equal value-

This is fundamental to democracy and ensures equality in political participation. It implies that everyone should have one vote, and every vote should carry the same weight, reflecting the principle of equal representation.

Option 2 is correct: Elections must be conducted in a free and fair manner-

A democratic election must be transparent, free from coercion, and impartial. This allows people to vote as they truly wish, ensuring that the process is legitimate and reflects the will of the electorate. Free and fair elections distinguish democracies from non-democratic systems, where elections may be held but lack credibility.

Option 3 is correct: Voters having freedom of choice-

Democracy thrives on pluralism, meaning voters should have real options to choose from Political parties and candidates must be free to contest elections, offering diverse ideologies and policies. Without genuine choices, elections lose their democratic essence.

Option 4 is incorrect: Candidates must meet minimum educational qualification to contest elections.

While this may seem like a reasonable criterion, it is not an essential feature of democratic elections. Democracy values inclusivity and does not exclude candidates based on educational qualifications. It ensures that all individuals, regardless of their formal education, have the right to contest elections, provided they meet other constitutional requirements.

42. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

In India, when contesting an election, candidates are required to **file an affidavit in Form 26**, which is mandated by **Section 33A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951**, and the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961. The **affidavit must include several key disclosures**:

- **Serious criminal cases pending against the candidate**
- **Assets and liabilities of the candidate and their family**
- **Educational qualifications of the candidate**

This information **must be made publicly available** to allow voters to make an informed decision.

Failure to comply with these disclosure requirements can lead to the rejection of the nomination or, in cases of false information, penalties, including imprisonment for up to six months or a fine

However, the **passport number** and **travel history, and also the medical history** of the candidate are **not required** in the affidavit.

43. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement I is correct. National Voters Day (NVD) is celebrated on **January 25** every year in India. This date marks the **foundation day of the Election Commission of India** (ECI), which was established on January 25, 1950. The celebration was **started in 2011** to encourage young people to participate in the electoral process and promote awareness about voting rights.

Statement II is incorrect. India granted **Universal Adult Suffrage** (right to vote for all adults irrespective of caste,

gender, or religion) in the Constitution of India, which came into effect on **January 26, 1950,** not on January 25. This move made India one of the few countries at the time to grant voting rights to all adults without any discrimination.

44. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

India's election process operates under a structured hierarchy to ensure free and fair elections. At the top is the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners. The Election Commission of India (ECI) is supported by the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) at the state level, District Electoral Officer (DEO) at the district level, Returning Officer (RO) and Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) at the constituency level. Returning Officers is appointed by DEO/ ECI for each constituency within the district.

RO plays a vital role in India's elections, overseeing the entire election process within their constituency. Their responsibilities include **receiving nominations of candidates in each constituency,** scrutinizing candidate's eligibility, **coordinating the distribution of election materials,** and supervising the polling process. They also **oversee the counting of votes and declare the results.**

However, the preparation of electoral rolls is the responsibility of the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO), not the RO.

Important Tips

As per the Representation of People's Act 1950, Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) is the statutory authority for preparation and revision of electoral rolls and therefore he is solely responsible for every activity relating to the said process. Assistant Electoral Registration Officer (AERO) is competent to perform all works of ERO, subject to condition of overall responsibility of ERO.

45. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Model Code of Conduct (MCC) is a 'consensus document' or a set of rules created by Election Commission of India (ECI) in consultation with political parties, to ensure that elections are fair, peaceful, and transparent. It regulates how political parties & candidates conduct their campaigns, how public resources are used, and how government announcements are made during this period. The first version of MCC is introduced during the 1960 Kerala Assembly elections.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Model Code of Conduct (MCC) is a set of guidelines issued by the ECI to promote fair and ethical conduct during elections. Although **political parties and candidates are expected to adhere** to these guidelines, **the MCC is not legally enforceable as it lacks statutory backing.**

Statement 2 is correct: The Model Code of Conduct **comes into force immediately** after **the Election Commission announces the election schedule.**

Statement 3 is correct: The MCC remains in **operation till the election process is complete, i.e. results are announced (i.e. it is applicable after the last phase of polling till the results are announced).**

Statement 4 is correct: All organizations, committees, corporations, and commissions (e.g., transport authorities, water boards) **funded wholly or partially by the Centre or State are required to adhere to the MCC.** In addition to political parties and candidates, non-political organizations that conduct campaigns in support of a political party or candidate must also follow the specific guidelines set by the Election Commission.

46. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statements 1 and 2 are correct: According to the election law, no party or candidate can:

- Bribe or threaten voters
- **Appeal to them in the name of caste or religion**
- Use government resources for election campaign
- **No candidate can spend more than Rs 95 lakh for Lok Sabha constituencies,** whereas for Assembly seats, the limit stands at Rs 40 lakh. However, in certain smaller states and Union Territories, these caps are slightly lower, with Rs 75 lakh and Rs 28 lakh allocated for Lok Sabha and Assembly candidates, respectively. There is **no expenditure limit for political parties.**

Statement 3 is correct: All the political parties in India have agreed to a Model Code of Conduct for election campaigns. According to this, no party or candidate can:

- Use any place of worship for election propaganda
- **Use government vehicles, aircrafts and officials for elections**
- Once elections are announced, Ministers shall not lay any foundation stones of any projects, take any big policy decisions or make any promises of providing public facilities.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Political parties promise to offer free electricity/water supply, monthly allowance to unemployed, daily wage workers and women as well as gadgets like laptops, smartphones etc. in order to secure the vote of the people. These are considered as freebies which are promised during the election. There is no law currently governing the irrational use of freebies in election. Supreme Court in S Subramaniam Balaji vs Government of Tamil Nadu 2013 held that promises in the election manifesto cannot be construed as "corrupt Practice" under the Representation of People Act or under any other prevailing law. Though it directed Election Commission of India to frame guidelines for the regulation of freebies in consultation with all the recognised political parties.

47. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

In case of the death of a candidate before poll, the Election Commission countermands the election only in case of recognized political party. It has no obligation to countermand an election on the death of candidate of a registered political party or an independent candidate. As per the Section 52 (1) of the RoPA 1951, the Returning officer (RO) after receiving report of death of a candidate of recognized political party shall announce the order for the adjournment of the poll/countermanding the poll. Further, the date of the poll has to be notified later. The Report of the countermanding the election has to be produced to the Election Commission. Then the ECI calls upon the recognized political party to nominate another candidate for the said poll.

48. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Article 346 talks about "Official language for communication between one State and another or between a State and the Union":

A state can choose -

a) Language being used in Union for official purposes.
b) Hindi language can also be the official language for communication between states.

If two or more States agree that the Hindi language should be the official language for communication between such States, that language may be used for such communication. Therefore, the state and the Union can mutually decide whether **Hindi or any other official language (ex. English)** be the medium of communication. Thus, it is not necessary the language mentioned in the Eighth schedule can be only the medium of communication between the state and the Union.

Statement 2 is correct. As per Article 347 of the Constitution of India—On a demand being made in that behalf **the President may**, if he is satisfied that a substantial proportion of the population of a State desire the use of any language spoken by them to be recognised by that State, **direct that such language shall also be officially recognised throughout that State or any part thereof for such purpose as he may specify.**

49. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Representation of the People Act, 1951 provides for the conduct of elections to the Houses of Parliament and to the Houses of the State Legislature, the provisions regarding qualification and disqualification for the membership, and remedies of disputes in connection with such elections. **Chapter III of the Act** provides for various grounds on which a candidate can be disqualified for election to the Parliament or the State Legislatures.

Option 1 is correct. A candidate can be disqualified when he is convicted of any offence resulting in imprisonment for two or more years. He shall be disqualified from the date of such conviction and shall continue to be disqualified for a further period of six years since his release.

Option 2 is correct. As per Section 9 of the RoPA of 1951, a person who has held an office under the Government of India or under the Government of any State **has been dismissed for corruption or for disloyalty to the State** shall be disqualified for a period of five years from the date of such dismissal.

Option 3 is correct. A candidate can be disqualified if s/he convicted for the contravention of any law relating to the adulteration of food or drugs and sentenced to imprisonment for not less than six months. He/she shall be disqualified from the date of such conviction and shall continue to be disqualified for a further period of six years since his/her release.

Option 4 is correct: A candidate can be disqualified for **promoting or attempting to promote feelings of enmity or hatred between different classes of the citizens of India on grounds of religion, race, caste, community, or language.**

Option 5 is correct: Section 10A of the Act provides for disqualification if the Election Commission is satisfied that a person has failed to lodge an account of election expenses within the time and in the manner required by or under the Act, and has no good reason or justification for the failure. The disqualification in this case is for a period of three years from the date of the order.

50. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Representation of the People Act, 1951, empowered the High Courts and Election Commission of India to declare elections to the State Legislative Assembly or Lok Sabha as void under certain conditions.

Option 1 is incorrect. According to Section 52 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, if a candidate of a recognized political party dies before the commencement of the poll, the Returning Officer may adjourn the poll to a date to be notified later. **If a candidate of a recognized political party dies after the commencement of the poll but before the declaration of the result, the election will not be void. The votes already cast will be counted, and the result will be declared.**

Option 2 is correct. According to Section 100 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, the election can be declared void if a candidate was disqualified at the time of the election. An election petition can be filed in the High Court under Part VI of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. **If the court finds that the candidate was indeed disqualified, it can declare the election void.**

Option 3 is correct. Under Section 100(1)(c) of RoPA, 1951 , if the High Court finds that the nomination was improperly rejected and that this rejection materially affected the election's outcome, it can declare the election void.

51. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Options 1, 2 and 3 are correct: The following committees submitted reports on electoral reforms in India:

- **Dinesh Goswami Committee (1990):** This committee made several recommendations on issues such as the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner, the anti-defection law, the voting system, the model code of conduct, the security deposit, etc.
- **Tarkunde Committee (1975):** This committee was headed by Justice V.M. Tarkunde and consisted of eminent citizens such as Jaya Prakash Narayan, A.G. Noorani, R.D. Desai, etc. The committee suggested changes in the procedure of appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner, the reduction of voting age to 18 years, the use of electronic voting machines, etc.
- **Indrajit Gupta Committee (1998):** This committee was headed by former Home Minister Indrajit Gupta and dealt with the issue of state funding of elections. The committee recommended partial state funding of elections in kind such as petrol, paper, vehicles, etc. To recognized political parties and candidates.

Option 4 is incorrect: The Balwantrai Mehta Committee (1957) was not related to electoral reforms, but to Panchayati raj institutions.

52. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Election Commission of India has the power to take decisions to ensure a free and fair poll. **It can postpone or cancel the election** in the entire country or a specific State or constituency on the grounds that the atmosphere is vitiated and therefore, a free and fair election may not be possible.

Article 324 of the Constitution vests the commission with plenary powers to revoke or cancel the polls.

53. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: In a democratic election, **every adult having the right to cast a single vote with equal worth is a fundamental requirement** to ensure that the electoral process is fair and unbiased. This principle upholds the core democratic values of equality and representation, giving each eligible citizen an equal say in the outcome of the election.

Statement 2 is correct: In a **democratic system of elections, granting any number of political parties and candidates the freedom to participate in elections is essential.** It ensures diversity of choices for voters, fostering a competitive and representative electoral process. This liberty empowers citizens by offering authentic alternatives, a cornerstone of democratic governance, promoting a responsive and accountable political landscape.

Statement 3 is incorrect: While it is a valuable and desirable aspect of democracy to ensure that minorities and marginalized groups are adequately represented, **not all democratic systems have specific provisions for this in their electoral processes.** The representation of these groups **can be addressed through other democratic institutions, such as legislative bodies and laws that protect minority rights.** Therefore, while important, it is not universally considered a minimum requirement for the conduct of democratic elections.

54. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

Statement 1 is correct: The grounds for removal of the CEC are the same as those for removal of a judge of the Supreme Court:

1. Proved misbehaviour

2. Incapacity

Statement 2 is incorrect: The President can remove the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) if both Houses of Parliament pass a resolution with a special majority (majority of the total strength of the house and majority of 2/3rd members present and voting) to that effect. This procedure is provided for in **Article 324(5)** of the Constitution of India. This is to ensure that the CEC's independence is protected and that he/she can only be removed from office for serious misconduct or incapacity.

Statement 3 is incorrect: A motion for the removal of the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) can be introduced in either of the houses of Parliament, i.e., the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha.

55. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement a is correct: Article 330 of the Indian Constitution guarantees representation for Scheduled Tribes in the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Indian Parliament. It mandates that a specific number of seats in the Lok Sabha be reserved for Scheduled Tribes, ensuring that their voices are heard in the legislative process. This provision aims to address the historical marginalization of Scheduled Tribes and promote their participation in the political sphere.

Statement b is correct: The Lok Sabha, with 543 elected representative seats, designates 84 for Scheduled Castes and 47 for Scheduled Tribes, reflecting the 2011 Census data, which recorded SCs at 16.7% and STs at 8.6% of the population. Similarly, at the state level, 614 MLAs represent SCs and 554 represent STs out of a total of 4,120 seats to ensure proportional representation.

Statement c is incorrect: Not every state has at least one seat reserved for Scheduled Tribes in the Lok Sabha. The number of seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes varies from state to state, depending on the population of Scheduled Tribes in that state. For example, **Madhya Pradesh has 6 seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes while Goa has no seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes.**

Statement d is correct: Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Indian Parliament.

56. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The allocation of reserved seats is based on the population of SCs and STs, resulting in variations among states. For instance, **Uttar Pradesh has the highest number of SC seats (17), while Madhya Pradesh has the highest number of ST seats (6)**, reflecting the population distribution of these communities.

Statement 2 is incorrect: According to the 84th Amendment Act of the Constitution, the number of seats allocated to various state in the Lok Sabha is based **on the 1971 census, not the 2001 census, and this allocation remains unchanged until the first census conducted after 2026.**

Statement 3 is correct: Currently, Uttar Pradesh has the largest number of Lok Sabha electoral constituencies, **totaling 80 seats.**

57. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement a is incorrect: The Representation of the People Act, 1951, denies voting rights to individuals in police custody and those serving imprisonment. This is as per Section 62 (5) of RPA, 1951 Act but there is an exception as this clause will not apply to a person subjected to preventive detention. Thus they can cast their vote.

Statement b is correct: Aadhaar number is not mandatory for inclusion of eligible voter in electoral roll. The ECI has stated that the purpose of providing the Aadhaar number is to assist in the purification of the electoral roll by linking voter ID cards with Aadhaar numbers. However, it has also emphasized that the absence of an Aadhaar number will not be grounds for rejecting an application for voter registration.

Statement c is correct: The possession of an Election Photo Identity Card (EPIC)/ Voter ID is not mandatory for voting. **In India, voters can use a variety of other photo identity cards to vote, such as a passport, driving license, or ration card**. The EPIC is simply one of the many acceptable identification cards.

Statement d is correct: Electronic Voting Machine (EVM) in India are manufactured by Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL) and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL).

58. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The Indian Constitution, as per Article 326, supports universal adult suffrage by not mandating any specific educational qualifications for citizens to exercise their right to vote. This ensures that all eligible citizens have an equal opportunity to participate in the democratic process.

Statement 2 is correct: The Sixty-first Amendment of the Constitution of India, officially known as The Constitution (Sixty-first Amendment) Act, 1988, lowered the voting age of elections to the Lok Sabha and to the Legislative Assemblies of States from 21 years to 18 years.

59. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Candidates in Lok Sabha or State Assembly elections must disclose specific information to ensure transparency and accountability:

1. **Educational qualifications:** Recent Supreme Court directives require **candidates to declare their educational qualifications, which was not previously mandatory.** This enhances the transparency of a candidate's background.
2. **Assets and liabilities:** Candidates must disclose their assets and liabilities, as well as those of their family members. **This disclosure helps voters understand a candidate's financial interests and potential conflicts of interest.**
3. **Pending criminal cases:** Candidates are legally obligated to provide information about serious pending criminal cases against them. This **transparency assists voters in making informed decisions** and allows authorities to assess a candidate's suitability for office.
4. **Sources of income:** Candidates and their associates must disclose their sources of income. **Non-disclosure is considered a corrupt practice under the Representation of the People Act of 1951**, falling under the category of 'undue influence.' This regulation aims to prevent candidates from using hidden financial influence in elections, promoting fairness and integrity in the electoral process.

All the mentioned personal details, including educational qualifications, assets and liabilities of self and family members, pending criminal cases, and sources of income, are mandatory for candidates contesting elections in India to include in the declaration form submitted to the ECI.

60. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: The Model Code of Conduct (MCC) remains in effect from the date of the announcement of the election schedule until the date when the election results are declared, not just from the polling date. This ensures fair and ethical conduct during the entire election process.

Option b is correct: According to our election law, no party or candidate can:

1. Bribe or threaten voters;
2. Appeal to them in the name of caste or religion;
3. Use government resources for election campaign; and
4. Use any place of worship for election propaganda;

Option c is correct: Time is allocated for Lok Sabha candidates for election campaigning on All India Radio (AIR). The time allocation is done by the Election Commission of India (ECI).

Option d is correct: Under Model Code of Conduct (MCC), candidates and political parties are not allowed to use public property or places, including railway stations, airports, and post offices, for election-related advertisements. They are prohibited from defacing public spaces with posters, banners, or other campaign materials during elections.

61. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: - In India, simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha (House of The People) and Vidhan Sabhas (State Legislative Assemblies) were held in the years 1951-52, 1957, 1962 and 1967 (four times not once). Thereafter, however, the schedule could not be maintained and the elections to the Lok Sabha and the Vidhan Sabhas have still not been realigned.

Statement 2 is correct - The Indian National Congress (INC) won a landslide victory, winning 364 of the 489 seats and 45% of the total votes polled. Communist Party of India was the second largest with 16 seats followed by Socialist Party with 12 seats. Hence Communist Party of India was the largest opposition party after the first Lok Sabha elections.

Statement 3 is correct – Indian National Congress, for a long time, ruled in center and at states. Kerala in 1957 became the first non-INC ruled state. The Communist Party of India won the election with 60 seats. The election led to the formation of first democratically elected communist government in India.

62. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Currently Voting in an Indian election can be done through three ways- in person, by post and through a proxy.

Statement 1 is correct. Postal voting is a facility through which a voter can cast her vote remotely by recording her preference on the ballot paper and sending it back to the election officer before counting.

Statement 2 is correct. Under proxy voting, a registered elector can delegate his voting power to a representative. This was introduced in 2003 for elections to the Lok Sabha and Assemblies, but on a limited scale.

Statement 3 is correct. Members of armed forces can vote both through postal voting and proxy voting. A "classified service voter" is allowed to nominate a proxy to cast vote on his behalf in his absence. A "classified service voter" includes members of the armed forces, BSF, CRPF, CISF, General Engineering Reserve Force and Border Road Organisation. They can appoint a proxy as long as the proxy, too, is a registered voter in the same constituency. Members of the armed forces like the Army, Navy and Air Force, members of the armed police force of a state (serving outside the state), government employees posted outside India and their spouses are entitled to vote by post i.e., through postal voting.

Important Tips

Other categories who are entitled to vote by post:

- Voters under preventive detention can vote only by post.
- Special voters such as the President of India, Vice President, Governors, Union Cabinet ministers, Speaker of the House and government officers on poll duty have the option to vote by post. But they have to apply through a prescribed form to avail this facility.
- Recently, the Law Ministry, at the Election Commission's behest, introduced a new category of 'absentee voters', who can now also opt for postal voting. These are voters employed in essential services and unable to cast their vote due to their service conditions. Currently, officials of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, Railway (Passenger and Freight) Services and media persons are notified as absentee voters.

63. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

According to the Constitution of India (Article 329), no election to the Parliament or a State Legislature can be questioned, except by filing an election petition duly filed with the appropriate authority and in such a manner provided by the appropriate legislature. Accordingly, Parliament has enacted the Representation of Peoples Act, 1951, which gives powers to the High Courts to decide the election petitions. So, in the given case, Mr. Y can choose to file an election petition before the High Court. The Supreme Court has appellate jurisdiction in such cases.

64. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The recognition as a national or a state party is accorded as per the rules made under the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order 1968.

Statement a is correct: The Election Commission of India (ECI) is the designated authority to grant recognition to the political parties. Accordingly, ECI is empowered to declare a political party as a national (or a state) party.

Statement b is incorrect: A political party in India can lose its national party tag if it fails to meet the criteria specified under the Representation of People Act 1951 and the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order 1968. According to Paragraph 6C of the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order 1968., amended with effect from January 1, 2014, a party will continue to be a national or state party if it fulfils the criteria laid down in Paragraphs 6A and 6B in the "next election", after the one in which it "got recognition".

For example, in April 2023 the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) was recognized as a National Party by the Election Commission of India (ECI). At the same time, the Trinamool Congress (TMC), Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and Communist Party of India (CPI), however, lost their national party status. The EC's decision was based on a review of the parties' poll performances in the 2014 and 2019 Lok Sabha polls and 21 state assembly polls since 2014.

Statement c is correct: There are separate criteria specified for the recognition of a party as a state party. So, if a party is recognized as a 'state party' in four or more states, it can be granted the status of a national party.

Statement d is correct: A recognized party (National/ State) enjoys certain privileges. These include a reserved party symbol, **free broadcast time on state-run television**

and radio, consultation in the setting of election dates, and giving input in setting electoral rules and regulations. Hence, the given statement is correct

65. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Since all citizens cannot directly participate in the decision-making process, representatives are elected for smooth governance. This is an indirect form of democracy where elections are held to elect the representatives. However, in the direct form of democracy, citizens may directly participate in the decision-making process. For instance, Gram Sabha (village assembly of adult population) is not an elected body, but takes important decisions regarding village development, resource management, and so on. Hence, it is incorrect to say that we cannot have democracy without holding elections.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Democracy is a form of government in which political power is vested in the hands of the people. While elections are a common feature of democratic systems, it is possible to have elections in non-democratic or authoritarian systems as well. For example, China holds regular elections at various levels of government, including the local and village levels. However, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) maintains strict control over the political system, and opposition parties are not allowed at the national level. Thus, these elections are criticized for not being free and fair. In this example, elections are being held but they are not following the ideals of democracy. Thus, we can say that there can be elections without democracy.

Statement 3 is correct: For democratic elections, it is essential that everyone should be given equal opportunity to choose or to get chosen by the people. Without rule of law, the rulers will degenerate the electoral process in their favor through manipulations and other malpractices. Rule of law (through Constitution of the country, etc.) will ensure law above men and also ensures fair opportunity to all.

66. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Star campaigners can be described as persons who are nominated by political parties to campaign in a given set of Constituencies.

Statement 1 is correct. Expenditure incurred on electioneering by the star campaigner is not added to a candidate's poll expenditure giving him/her more leeway. According to the Representation of People's Act, these expenses will be borne by the political parties.

Statement 2 is incorrect. A star campaigner is nominated by the concerned political parties specifying their constituencies and duration of the status. ECI has no role in appointment of star campaigners for political parties.

67. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer

The assertion is correct- India adopted the First Past the Post (FPTP) system for elections to the Lok Sabha, instead of proportional representation (PR). The FPTP system is easier to understand even for illiterate people and this will bring the sense of inclusivity among the common people.

Reason is true and the correct explanation of Assertion- The Constitution makers of India considered various factors when choosing an electoral system, including:

1. The size and diversity of the country
2. The need for a stable government
3. The level of literacy and political awareness among the electorate

They concluded that the FPTP system was the best option for India, as it was simple to understand and implement, and **it was more likely to produce a majority government.**

68. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

Option a is incorrect-The Delimitation Commission is **appointed by the President of India** and works in collaboration with the Election Commission of India.

Option b is incorrect-It is **appointed for the purpose of drawing up the boundaries of constituencies** all over the country including only parliamentary and assembly constituencies. It is not responsible for redrawing the boundaries of the constituencies for Panchayati Raj elections. The State Governments are responsible for setting up of different State Delimitation Commissions through the acts of state legislature. For example, the Tamil Nadu Delimitation Commission Act, 2017.

Option c is incorrect- Delimitation commissions have been set up four times **(not five times)** in the past i.e. in 1952, 1962, 1972 and 2002, respectively under Delimitation Commission Acts of 1952, 1962, 1972 and 2002.

Option d is correct- The orders issued by the Delimitation Commission do **have the force of law.** They are legally binding and are to be followed for the purpose of elections and representation. Further, as per the Delimitation Act, 2002, the orders passed by the Delimitation Commission **cannot be called into question before any court**. This provision was introduced to avoid frequent litigations or legal challenges that might arise regarding the boundaries or demarcation of constituencies.

69. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer

Option 1, 2 and 3 are correct -The Delimitation Commission of India is a high-power body appointed by the President of India under Article 82 of the Constitution. It is composed of the following members:

1. A **retired Supreme Court judge**, who is the chairperson of the Commission.
2. The **Chief Election Commissioner.**
3. The **State Election Commissioners of the respective states.**

Option 4 is incorrect: A sitting judge of any High Court in India **is not member of Delimitation Commission of**

India. The members of the Delimitation Commission are typically retired judges or individuals holding other relevant positions appointed specifically for this purpose but sitting judges of High Courts do not serve on this commission.

70. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **Representation of People's Act, 1951 contains** provisions relating to:

- Qualifications and disqualifications for membership of Parliament and State Legislatures. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Corrupt practices and electoral offences. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

The **Representation of People's Act, 1950 contains** provisions relating to:

- Allocation of seats in the House of the People, the State Legislative Assemblies and the State Legislative Councils. **Hence, statement 2 is incorrect.**
- Delimitation of Parliamentary, Assembly and Council Constituencies. **Hence, statement 4 is incorrect.**

71. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

A competitive electoral process is a system in which multiple parties or candidates vie for power, providing voters with real choices and fostering a dynamic political landscape. This system encourages the articulation of different perspectives and viewpoints, leading to a more inclusive and representative political process.

Option 1 is correct: Multiple Parties or Candidates-

A competitive electoral system is characterized by the presence of multiple parties or candidates competing for power. This multiplicity of options allows voters to choose from a diverse range of ideologies and platforms, reflecting the heterogeneity of society.

Option 2 is correct: Uncertainty of Outcome-

A competitive electoral system is marked by uncertainty regarding the outcome. The close contest between parties or candidates keeps the electorate engaged and incentivizes them to participate in the political process.

Option 3 is correct: Voice for Diverse Groups-

A competitive electoral system provides a platform for diverse groups to express their interests and have their voices heard. This inclusivity fosters a more representative and responsive government.

Option 4 is correct: Potential to create factionalism-

The Constitution's framers supported a competitive electoral system despite its potential to create factionalism in society, as it allows diverse voices to be heard. They believed in open political competition, recognizing it as essential for a robust democracy, fostering debate, and ensuring government responsiveness to the varied concerns of the populace.

72. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Matters related to electoral disputes in case of the Vice President of India are decided upon by the Supreme Court only whose decision is final.

Statement 2 is correct: The members of the Election Commission can only reprimand candidates in case of violation of the Model Code of Conduct, or at most file cases under relevant sections of Civil Procedure Code. They cannot however disqualify them on any grounds, other than those mentioned in the Representation of People Act, which does not include violation of Model Code of Conduct as of now.

73. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer .

Statement a is correct: Every Indian citizen above 18 years old has the right to vote, regardless of caste, religion, gender, or economic status. This right is protected by Article 326 of the Indian Constitution. India was among the first countries to adopt this principle. It became part of the Indian Constitution in 1950, and the first election under these rules happened in 1951.

Statement b is incorrect: Currently there is no Constitutional or legislative provision for state funding of elections. The Government of India does not bear any election expenses of the candidates contesting for the Lok Sabha or State Legislative Assembly elections. The Candidates have to pay for their election campaigns; the government doesn't provide money. The Election Commission of India (ECI) sets spending limits based on the election type and constituency. Candidates must keep a record of their expenses and submit it to the ECI after the election.

Statement c is correct: Candidates with pending criminal cases can contest elections in India. There is no bar on candidates with pending criminal cases from contesting elections.

Statement d is correct: India doesn't have a specific law to monitor political parties and make sure they operate transparently and democratically. This is a big gap in the Indian legal system because political parties are crucial in a democracy.

74. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect. While any Indian citizens above the age of 18 years can register themselves as voters and are eligible to vote in Lok Sabha election, it is not so in case of Rajya Sabha. The members of Rajya Sabha are elected indirectly by the elected members of the Legislative Assembly of that State and by the members of the Electoral College for that Union Territory. The minimum age for becoming a candidate for Lok Sabha election or State Legislative Assembly is 25 years. Thus, minimum age for being a voter in Rajya Sabha elections is 25 years.

Option b is incorrect. The voters can give preference order for different candidates only in Rajya Sabha election and not in Lok Sabha. In Lok Sabha elections, each voter only vote for one candidate of his/her choice and candidates with maximum votes wins the election (first past the post system). However, in Rajya Sabha elections, every voter is required to rank candidates according to her or his preference.

Option c is correct. The candidate for election to parliament must be registered as an elector for a parliamentary constituency. This is same in the case of both, the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha. The requirement that a candidate contesting an election to the Rajya Sabha from a particular state should be an elector in that particular state was dispensed with in 2003. In 2006, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of this change.

Option d is incorrect. In Lok Sabha elections, candidates with maximum number of votes is declared winner, irrespective of whether he gets half the votes or not. However, in Rajya Sabha elections, to be declared the winner, a candidate must secure a minimum quota of votes, which is determined by a formula:

$$\left(\frac{\text{Total votes polled}}{\text{Total number of candidate to elected}+1}\right)$$

75. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

Option 1 is correct: An Election Commissioner (other than the Chief Election Commissioner) can be removed from office by the President on the recommendation of the Chief Election Commissioner. However, the Chief Election Commissioner can be removed from office by the President, on the recommendation of both Houses of Parliament, by a majority of not less than 2/3rd members present, and voting supported by more than 50% of the total strength of the house. This is the same procedure that is used to remove a judge of the Supreme Court.

Option 2 is incorrect: The Chief Election Commissioner and two other Election Commissioners have equal powers and receive similar salaries and allowances. This equality ensures the Election Commission's independence and impartiality.

Option 3 is correct: In case of a difference of opinion amongst the Chief Election Commissioner and/or two other Election Commissioners, the matter is decided by the Commission by majority vote. This ensures that the Election Commission can function effectively even when there is a difference of opinion amongst its members.

9.2. Anti-Defection Law

76. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The Tenth Schedule contains the provisions with respect to the **disqualification of members** of Parliament and the state legislatures **on the ground of defection**. It has been made to stop the horse trading in the politics and increase the faith in the democracy.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The disqualification on the ground of defection does **not apply** if a member, after being **elected as the presiding officer** of the House, voluntarily gives up the membership of his party. This exemption has been provided in view of the dignity and impartiality of this office.

Statement 2 is correct: A member of a House belonging to any political party **becomes disqualified** for being a member of the House, if he voluntarily gives up his membership of such political party or **he votes or abstains from voting in such House contrary to any direction issued by his political party without obtaining prior permission of such party.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: If a nominated members joins any political party **within six months of taking his seat**, he will **not** be considered as a case of defection. **A nominated member of a House becomes disqualified for being a member of the House if he joins any political party after the expiry of six months** from the date on which he takes his seat in the House.

Statement 4 is correct: An independent member of a House (elected without being set up as a candidate by any political party) **becomes disqualified** to remain a member of the House if he **joins any political party after such election.** There is no any provision of getting approval from president before joining any party to escape from defection.

77. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The **Anti-defection law** was introduced through the **52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985**, which added the **Tenth Schedule** to the Indian Constitution. This law was enacted to curb political defections by lawmakers that were destabilizing governments.

The **62nd Amendment Act, 1989**, on the other hand, pertains to the **extension of reservations for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Anglo-Indians in legislatures**, and is not related to the Anti-defection law.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The **authority to decide on disqualification under the Anti-defection law rests with the Presiding Officer of the respective House of Parliament**, i.e., the Speaker of the Lok Sabha or the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. The role of the President of India is not involved in this process.

The **decision of the Presiding Officer is final**, but it is **subject to judicial review** by courts. This has been clarified through various Supreme Court judgments, such as the **Kihoto Hollohan case (1992).**

Statement 3 is correct: The **Anti-defection law** deems it an **act of defection if a member remains absent from the House when directed by the party leadership to be present**, votes against the party's instructions, or voluntarily resigns or gives up membership of their political party. These provisions are designed to maintain party discipline and prevent destabilization of the government.

78. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The anti-defection law, added to the Indian Constitution through the **Tenth Schedule by the 52nd Amendment in 1985,** was designed to curb political volatility caused by legislators defecting from their parties.

Statement 1 is incorrect: A person who has been elected to the office of the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker of the House of the People or the **Deputy Chairman of the Council of States** or the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman of the Legislative Council of a State or the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of a State, **shall not be disqualified under the Tenth Schedule if he/she voluntarily gives up the membership** of the political party to which he belonged immediately before such election and **does not join another political party**. Hence, the statement given is incorrect.

Statement 2 is correct: A member is disqualified if he **'voluntarily gives up his membership'**. In **Ravi S Naik vs Union of India, 1994**, the Supreme Court had held that voluntarily giving up membership does not necessarily mean that the legislator needs to formally resign, and that this **can be inferred from the member's conduct as well**. Accordingly, members who publicly opposed their party or supported another party can be deemed to have resigned. For example, two MPs from Rajya Sabha had been disqualified in the past as they criticized the party on public forums on multiple occasions, and **attending rallies organized by opposition parties.** Hence, the given statement is correct.

79. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The **52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985** provided for the disqualification of the members of Parliament and the state legislatures on the ground of **defection from one political party to another.** The purpose of Anti defection law is to bring stability to governments by deterring MPs and MLAs from changing their political parties on whose ticket they were elected.

Option a is incorrect: Anti defection law applies equally to both the houses of Parliament (and State legislatures). Thus, nominated members irrespective of their membership of house are subject to provisions of Anti defection law. Hence **nominated members of Rajya Sabha can be disqualified under defection charges if he/she joins political parties after six months of their nomination.**

Option b is incorrect: Nominated member of the Parliament **cannot be disqualified on the ground of his/her refusal to join any political party within six months** of their nomination to the house. The tenth schedule (Anti defection law) provides **nominated members a choice to join any political parties within six months of their nomination** and by doing so they cannot attract defection charges.

Option c is incorrect: The tenth schedule (and Anti defection law) provides **nominated members a choice to join any political parties within six months of their nomination** and by doing so they cannot attract defection charges. So, the statement is incorrect.

Option d is correct: It is true that nominated members can be disqualified on the ground of defection, if he/she **joins any political party after six months of their nomination.**

9.3. Governance

80. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The concept of Social Auditing in India began in 1979 when Tata Iron and Steel Company (TISCO) in Jamshedpur pioneered the first initiative. However, it gained momentum after the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, which empowered Gram Sabhas to audit the accounts of Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Statement 2 is correct. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005, mandates social audits to ensure transparency, accountability, and participation in the implementation of works under the scheme. Section 17 of MGNREGA requires Gram Sabhas to conduct social audits for all MGNREGA works in their jurisdiction.

81. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement I is correct. Good Governance Day is observed every year on December 25 in India to commemorate the birth anniversary of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the former Prime Minister of India, who was known for promoting good governance and transparency in administration. The day was established in 2014 to honour his contributions and to reaffirm the government's commitment to making the administration efficient and accountable.

Statement II is incorrect. The Right to Information Act (RTI Act) came into effect on October 12, 2005, not December 25, 2005. The RTI Act was enacted to empower citizens to seek information from public authorities and to promote transparency and accountability in governance.

82. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option 1 is incorrect: Provision for inspection of the agency's work is not one of the basic elements of citizen charter.

Option 2 is correct: One of the main aspects of service delivery is provision of channels for feedback, including, but not limited to grievance redressal. In order to make governance smooth and good experience for citizens, there should be well-prepared mechanisms in place to promptly and easily receive their complaints and concerns.

Option 3 is correct: Like any good service provider, a good government must also give options to its citizens regarding the kind of service they would prefer and would find convenient to make their lives easy and mold public service delivery according to their needs and not the other way round. So, mechanisms to provide choices in service delivery and consultation are inbuilt in a good citizen charter.

Option 4 is incorrect: Citizen Charter is all about citizen centric approach to governance and public service delivery. A good citizen charter does not insulate the government/ administration by placing it above the citizen, rather it treats citizens as customer and administration as service provider, who have to be courteous and helpful to the citizen at all times.

83. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS) is a web-based platform launched under the Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP). This initiative aims to streamline property and document registration across India. NGDRS acts as a one-stop solution, allowing citizens to register documents online and promoting uniformity in the process throughout the country. This initiative is expected to improve efficiency, transparency, and accessibility for document registration in India.

84. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Self Help Group (SHGs) is a small, economically homogenous and affinity-based group of people who have decided to save and contribute to a common fund to be lent to its members as per the groups' decision.

Option 1 is correct: SHGs encourage members to save regularly and pool their savings into a common fund, which is then utilized for internal lending and other developmental purposes. This inculcates financial discipline and thrift among members

Option 2 is correct: Under the SHG-Bank Linkage Programme, SHGs can avail credit from banks and financial institutions without collateral. The principle of peer pressure acts as a substitute for collateral, ensuring repayment

Option 3 is incorrect: The ownership and control of SHGs rest with its members, not with the external facilitator. While facilitators like NGOs or government agencies may help form SHGs, the group's decision-making and functioning are managed by its members.

85. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is correct. MeghRaj, also known as **GI Cloud,** is a cloud computing initiative to improve **e-service delivery and optimize ICT spending.** It provides **Cloud Computing Services** such as Platform as a Service (PaaS), Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS), Software as a Services (SaaS) and Storage as a Service (STaaS)) to the users at fast pace which is also cost effective. It will ensure **proliferation of Cloud** in the government.

Pair 2 is incorrect. The main objective of e-Kranti is to accelerate e-governance across India and achieve its vision to: "Ensure government-wide transformation by delivering all government services electronically to citizens via integrated, interoperable systems through multiple modes."

Pair 3 is correct. PRAGATI is a multi-purpose and multi-modal platform that is aimed at **addressing common man's grievances and simultaneously monitoring and reviewing important programmes and projects** of the Government of India as well as projects flagged by State Governments.

86. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

A Citizens' Charter is a declaration by an organization, particularly public service entities, that outlines its commitments, standards, and responsibilities to citizens. It typically includes information about the services offered, timelines for service delivery, grievance redress mechanisms, and contact details for escalation.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The **Citizens' Charter was introduced in India in 1997** as part of an administrative reform initiative by the Government of India. The concept was inspired by the UK Citizens' Charter, launched in 1991 by then Prime Minister John Major. In India, the responsibility for drafting and monitoring Citizens' Charters was taken up by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG).

The **Second Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) was established in 2005.**

Statement 2 is incorrect. While there are various state-level legislations like the Madhya Pradesh Public Services Guarantee Act, 2010, and the Delhi Right of Citizen to Time Bound Delivery of Services Act, 2011, there is **no such national legislation** named Citizen's Charter and Grievance Redressal Act 2011.

87. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. The RTI Act gives the right to information **only to the citizens of India.** It does **not** make provision for giving information to **Corporations, Associations, Companies etc.** which are **legal entities/ persons,** but not citizens.

Statement 2 is correct. In normal course, information to an applicant shall be supplied **within 30 days** from the receipt of application by the public authority. If information sought concerns the life or liberty of a person, it shall be supplied **within 48 hours.** In case the application is sent through the Assistant Public Information Officer, or it is sent to a wrong public authority, five days shall be added to the period of thirty days or 48 hours, as the case may be.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Information which can be sought under the RTI act is any material in any form. It includes records, documents, memos, e-mails, opinions, advice, press releases, circulars, orders, logbooks, contracts, reports, papers, samples, models, data material held in any electronic form. **It also includes information relating to any private body which can be accessed by the public authority under any law for the time being in force.**

88. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

A Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) is a legally constituted entity created by private individuals or organizations, operating independently without government participation or representation. An NGO is a non-profit, voluntary citizens' group organized at local, national, or international levels. The rise of globalization in the 20th century highlighted the significance of NGOs, which have since evolved to focus on humanitarian issues, developmental aid, and sustainable development.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 19(1)(c) of Indian Constitution guarantees the freedom to form associations or cooperatives. It ensures that individuals have the right to come together and establish organizations for various purposes, **including NGOs.**

Statement 2 is correct: NGOs are generally voluntary, non-profit, service-oriented organizations dedicated to community development and welfare. Some focus on providing direct support, such as sustaining individuals or families, while others aim to empower communities to drive societal transformation. For example, Akshaya Patra Foundation provides mid-day meals to school children across India to combat hunger and promote education whereas Pratham NGO aims to improve education quality and access, empowering communities to prioritize learning.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Registration under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) is **not mandatory for all NGOs.** It is required only for those NGOs that intend to receive foreign contributions. Domestic NGOs that do not seek foreign funds do not need FCRA registration.

89. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

In democratic politics, pressure groups are organizations which attempt to influence the government.

Statement 1 is correct: The **primary function** of **pressure groups** is to **shape government decisions and public policies** in favor of their specific interests. They achieve this through various methods, including **lobbying** decision-makers, filing **petitions,** conducting **public campaigns,** organizing **protests, strikes, rallies,** and using media to raise awareness.

For example, environmental groups like Greenpeace lobby for stricter environmental regulations.

Statement 2 is correct: Pressure groups differ from political parties in their objectives. While political parties contest elections to gain power and govern, **pressure groups operate outside the formal political framework.** Their focus is solely on influencing decisions and policies without seeking to hold political office themselves. For instance, the All-India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) campaigns for workers' rights but does not contest elections or seek government positions.

Statement 3 is incorrect: It is **not mandatory for all pressure groups to register under the Societies Registration Act or any specific legal framework.** Many pressure groups **function informally** and are not registered under any Act. Registration is optional and may provide certain legal benefits, but it is not a requirement for their operation.

90. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Public Interest Groups work for the **broader welfare of society rather than a specific group.** They aim to **promote common interests** that benefit all citizens, such as environmental protection, consumer rights or human rights. Examples include **Greenpeace** and **Amnesty International.**

Statement 2 is correct: Sectional Interest Groups are organizations that **represent the interests of specific sections or groups,** such as trade unions, business associations, or professional groups. Their primary goal is to promote the welfare of their own members **rather than society at large.**

Its examples include: **Indian Medical Association** and **Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh.**

91. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement a is incorrect: Putting pressure on the government through pressure groups strengthens the democratic system. Exerting influence on those in power is a legitimate activity within a democratic framework, provided that it is accessible to all. Sometimes, the government may face excessive pressure from a select group of wealthy and influential persons. Pressure groups counter this influence and may serve the interests of the general public. This strengthens the ethos of democracy.

Statement b is incorrect: It is not mandatory for a pressure group to have a formal structure with clearly defined roles and responsibilities.

Statement c is correct: There are instances where pressure groups are affiliated with a political party. They might be formed by the leaders of the political party or act as an extended arm of political parties. For example, trade unions and student unions are affiliated with some or the other major political party

Statement d is incorrect: It is incorrect to say that the activities of pressure groups essentially establish the dominance of a particular section of society. They may serve specific segments of society, but no single group can monopolize societal influence. If one group exerts pressure on the government to shape policies in its favor, another will exert opposing pressure to resist those policies. This creates a balance of power in society.

92. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: The fundamental difference between a pressure group and a political party is that a **pressure group**

does not aim to directly control or share the political power. Political parties contest elections, whereas pressure groups campaign for their preferred candidate or political ideology. So, a pressure group may support a particular political party (eg. Affiliation of trade unions with political parties), they do not aim to directly control the political power.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Interest groups do not necessarily depend on spontaneous mass agitation. Interest groups may employ various strategies, including lobbying, advocacy, and public relations, to achieve their goals. Mass agitation is often associated more with movement groups or social movements.

93. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Pair 1 is correctly matched: The Narmada Bachao Aandolan was a people's movement with a spirit of collective action. It had a loose organization structure and intended to arouse masses through emotional appeals. It had a specific issue i.e. displacement of people and to stop the construction of Sardar Sarovar Project. Hence, it can be called a movement.

Pair 2 is correctly matched: Bhartiya Jana Sangh had been a political party. So, the protests led by such an organization is a form of political activity and the organization is an example of a 'political group'.

Pair 3 is correctly matched: "Promotional pressure groups" refers to a type of pressure group that actively promotes a particular cause, idea, or interest. These groups work to raise awareness about their issues, build support, and influence public opinion and policy decisions. Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) working for the promotion of women's rights is an example of a promotional interest group (also called a public interest group). They provide handholding support to women and lobby to improve their working conditions.

94. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Citizen's Charter is a document which represents a systematic effort to focus on the commitment of the Organization towards its Citizens in respects of Standard of Services, Information, Choice and Consultation, Grievance Redress etc. It also includes expectations of the Organization from the Citizen for fulfilling the commitment of the Organization.

Statement 1 is correct. The concept of Citizen's Charter was first articulated and implemented in the United Kingdom by the Conservative Government of John Major in 1991 as a national Programme with a simple aim of continuously improving the quality of public services for the people of the country.

Statement 2 is correct. The **Citizen's Charter is not legally enforceable and, therefore, is non-justiciable**. However, it is a tool for facilitating the delivery of services to citizens with specified standards, quality and time frame etc. with commitments from the Organization and its clients.

Important Tips

The Citizen's Charter is expected to incorporate the following elements:

1. Vision and Mission Statement;
2. Details of business transacted by the organisation;
3. Details of clients;
4. Details of services provided to each client group;
5. Details of grievance redress mechanism and how to access it; and
6. Expectations from the clients.

95. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The basic objective of the Right to Information Act is to empower the citizens, promote transparency and accountability in the working of the Public Authorities, contain corruption, and make our democracy work for the people in real sense.

Statement 1 is incorrect. In normal course, information to an applicant shall be **supplied within 30 days** from the receipt of application by the public authority. If information sought **concerns the life or liberty of a person, it shall be supplied within 48 hours**. In case the application is sent through the Assistant Public Information Officer or it is sent to a **wrong public authority, five days shall be added** to the period of thirty days or 48 hours, as the case may be.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The **tenure of CIC and ICs is not fixed.** This was done by **the 2019 Amendment** which has removed the provision of Fixed term of 5 years of original act of 2005, and it states that the **central government will notify the term of office for the CIC and the ICs.**

As per recent notified RTI rules, 2019, —The Chief Information Commissioner, or Information Commissioners, as the case may be, shall hold office for a period of three years from the date on which he enters upon his office

Statement 3 is incorrect. The information seeker is **not required to give reasons** for seeking information. **An applicant making request for information shall not be required to give any reason for requesting the information or any other personal details except those that may be necessary for contacting him.**

Statement 4 is incorrect. Section 8(1) and section 9 of the Act enumerate the types of information which is exempted from disclosure. However, Section 8(2) provides that information exempted under section 8(1) or exempted under the Official Secrets Act, 1923, **can be disclosed if public interest in disclosure overweighs the harm to the protected interest.**

96. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) is an online platform established by the Indian government for citizens to lodge complaints regarding public services. Launched in 2007, it allows users

to submit grievances, track their status, and receive timely redressal, promoting transparency and accountability in governance.

Statement 1 is correct: Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) empowers citizens to register complaints regarding issues faced while interacting with government departments. These issues could be related to:

1) Delays in service delivery
2) Unresponsiveness from government officials
3) Unfair treatment or discrimination
4) Corruption or inefficiency

Statement 2 is correct: Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) is an online platform available to the citizens 24x7 to lodge their grievances to the public authorities on any subject related to service delivery. **It is a single portal connected to all the Ministries/Departments of Government of India and States.** Every Ministry and States have role-based access to this system. The complains can be filed against **Union and State Ministries and Departments through the portal.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: CPGRAMS doesn't encompasses following:

1) Cases under judicial consideration or matters awaiting judgment from any court.
2) Personal and familial conflicts or disputes.
3) Issues related to the Right to Information (RTI).
4) Matters affecting the territorial integrity of the nation or diplomatic relationships with other countries.

97. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Social audit refers to the **process of evaluating and assessing an organization's social responsibility practices, including its impact on various stakeholders such as employees, communities, and the environment.**

It involves examining whether the organization is meeting its ethical and social obligations and can encompass areas such as labor practices, environmental sustainability, community engagement, and philanthropy. This evaluation helps in promoting transparency, accountability, and improvement in the organization's social performance.

98. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Public authority" is defined in Section 2(h) of the RTI Act. It states: "public authority" means any authority or body or institution of self- government established or constituted -

1. by or under the Constitution;
2. by any other law made by Parliament;
3. by any other law made by state legislature
4. by notification issued or order made by the appropriate Government.

Option 1 is incorrect. Political Parties currently are **not** considered as **public authority** under the RTI Act. There is an ongoing case in Supreme Court for bringing Political parties under the ambit of RTI act.

Option 2 is correct. Public Sector undertakings are formed under the law made by parliament. It qualifies as Public Authority under Section 2(h) of the RTI Act.

Option 3 is correct. Election Commission of India is a constitutional body which qualifies as Public Authority under Section 2(h) of the RTI Act.

Option 4 is correct. A five-judge bench of the Supreme Court has ruled that the office of Chief Justice of India (CJI) comes under the purview of the Right to Information (RTI) Act. It Upheld the 2010 verdict of Delhi Court where RTI activist Subhash C Aggarwal had filed a plea seeking information on Judge's assets.

Option 5 is correct. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is formed under the law made by parliament. It qualifies as Public Authority under Section 2(h) of the RTI Act.

99. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM-CARES) Fund, established by the Indian government, is a dedicated fund to tackle emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic. It relies on voluntary contributions from individuals and organizations, offering tax benefits. Led by the Prime Minister, it aims to provide relief, support healthcare infrastructure, and aid in disaster management.

Statement 1 is correct: The PM-CARES fund consists entirely of voluntary contributions from individuals/ organizations and **does not get any budgetary support.**

Statement 2 is correct: Donations made to the PM-CARES Fund are eligible for a 100% deduction under section 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961. This means that the entire donated amount can be deducted from the donor's taxable income, providing them with tax benefits.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The PM CARES Fund's structure includes the Prime Minister as its ex-officio Chairman, along with key members of the government serving as ex-officio Trustees. These Trustees comprise the Ministers of Defence, Home Affairs, and Finance in the Government of India.sss

9.4. Other Constitutional Dimensions

100. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Constitution of India was drafted by the Constituent Assembly, and it was implemented under the Cabinet Mission Plan on 16 May 1946. The members of the Constituent Assembly were elected by the provincial assemblies by a **single, transferable-vote system of proportional representation**. The total membership of the Constituent

Assembly was 389 of which 292 were representatives of the provinces, 93 represented the princely states and four were from the chief commissioner provinces of Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara, Coorg and British Baluchistan.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Congress Party held a large majority in the Assembly (69 percent of the seats), and the Muslim League held nearly all the seats reserved in the Assembly for Muslims. There were also members of smaller parties, such as the Scheduled Caste Federation, the **Communist Party of India** and the Unionist Party. **Communist Party of India got 1 seat in the Constituent Assembly.**

Statement 2 is incorrect. Muslim League with 73 seats was the second largest party after Indian National Congress (208 seats) in the Constituent Assembly of India. Unionist Party got only 1 seat in the Constituent Assembly of India

Sl.No.	Name of the Party	Seats won
1.	Congress	208
2.	Muslim League	73
3.	Unionist Party	1
4.	Unionist Muslims	1
5.	Unionist Scheduled Castes	1
6.	Krishak - Praja Party	1
7.	Scheduled Castes Federation	1
8.	Sikhs (Non-Congress)	1
9.	Communist Party	1
10.	Independents	8
	Total	296

Results of the Elections to the Constituent Assembly (July–August 1946)

101. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Other Backward Class (OBC) is a **term used by the Indian government** to **classify castes** that are **educationally or socially backward**. OBCs are **marginalized communities and castes** that are **not Scheduled Castes (SCs) or Scheduled Tribes (STs)**. They are **entitled to a 27% reservation** in central government jobs.

Statement I is correct: States in India are **empowered to compile their own lists of OBCs** that are specifically used for **state-level purposes**, such as reservations in state government jobs and educational institutions.

However, it's important to note that the **Supreme Court of India ruled in May 2021** that **after a constitutional amendment in 2018, state governments have no power to draw up their own lists of backward classes.**

But later, the **Lok Sabha approved the Constitution (127th Amendment) Bill, 2021 to restore the power of states to make their own Other Backward Castes (OBC) lists.**

Statement II is correct: The **102nd Constitutional Amendment Act established** the **National Commission for Backward Classes** as a **constitutional body**. The **102nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 2018 inserted Articles 338B and 342A into the Indian Constitution.** Its primary role is to **examine the complaints and welfare measures** regarding socially and educationally backward classes.

The 102nd Constitutional Amendment Act and the **constitutional status of the NCBC** (Statement-II) are **not directly related to the authority of individual states to delineate their own lists of OBCs** (Statement-I). These are **two separate aspects of the law and policy** regarding Other Backward Classes in India.

102. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option 1 is correct. The Constitution of India, **under Article 330**, provides reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes **in the House of the People i.e. the Lok Sabha.** The number of seats reserved for both of these groups is in proportion to their share in the population of India. Of the 543 elected seats in the Lok Sabha, 84 are reserved for Scheduled Castes and 47 are reserved for Scheduled Tribes.

Options 2 and 4 are incorrect. There is no provision so far to reserve seats for the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes **in the Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils of various States with bicameral legislatures.**

Option 3 is correct. The Constitution of India, **under Article 332**, provides reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes **in the Legislative Assembly of every State.** The number of seats reserved for both of these groups is in proportion to their share in the population of India.

Option 5 is correct. The Constitution of India, **under article 243ZJ,** provides that the Legislature of a State shall, by law, provide for the **reservation of one seat for the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes and two seats for women on board of every co-operative society** consisting of individuals as members and having members from such class of category of persons.

103. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option 1 is correct: Doctrine of Basic Structure was introduced by the Supreme Court in the **Kesavananda Bharati case (1973)** that imposed limits on Parliament's power to amend the Constitution under **Article 368 of Indian constitution.**

Option 2 is correct: Article 15(4) and **Article 16(4)** of the Indian Constitution allow the state to make special provisions for the advancement of socially and educationally backward classes in education and public employment. The **Mandal Commission (1980)** recommended a **27% reservation** for OBCs, which was implemented in 1990 but challenged in court. In the **Mandal Commission case (1992) also known as the Indra Sawhney Case,** the **Supreme Court** upheld the reservations but ruled that total reservations should not exceed **50%**, except in exceptional circumstances.

Option 3 is correct: The concept was introduced following the Supreme Court's judgement in the Indra Sawhney case (1992). The 'creamy layer' refers to the relatively affluent and better-educated members of the OBCs who are excluded from reservation benefits in government jobs and educational institutions. This ensures that reservations benefit the genuinely underprivileged sections of OBCs.

Option 4 is correct: The Right to Privacy is not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution, particularly in Part III relating to Fundamental Rights. However, through various judicial interpretations over the years, **the Supreme Court recognized the Right to Privacy as a fundamental right under Article 21, which guarantees the right to life and personal liberty, in the landmark K. S. Puttaswamy case (2017).**

Option 5 is incorrect: Contempt of Court refers to actions that disrespect or disobey the authority and dignity of the judiciary. Article 129 and Article 215 of the Indian Constitution empower the Supreme Court and High Courts, respectively, to punish contempt of court. **The Contempt of Court Act, 1971 defines contempt and outlines procedures for addressing it, classifying contempt as either civil or criminal (not based on judicial interpretation).**

104. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Part XVII of the Constitution deals with the official language in Articles 343 to 351. Its provisions are divided into four heads—Language of the Union, Regional languages, Language of the judiciary and texts of laws and Special directives.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 343 deals with the official language of the Union. It states that **Hindi, written in the Devanagari script, shall be the official language of the Union of India.**

But, the form of numerals to be used for the official purposes of the Union has to be the international form of Indian numerals and not the Devanagari form of numerals.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Article 348 specifies the language(s) to be used in High Courts and other courts within a state. The Governor of a state, with the previous consent of the President, can **authorise the use of Hindi or any other official language of the state**, in the proceedings in the high court of the state, but not with respect to the judgements, decrees and orders passed by it. In other words, the **judgements, decrees and orders of the high court must continue to be in English only (until Parliament otherwise provides).** Official Languages Act of 1963 allows the use of Hindi or a state's official language in addition to English for High Court judgments and decrees, with the President's consent. **There is no role of state legislature.**

105. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Delhi holds a unique status in India due to its designation as the National Capital Territory (NCT) and the special provisions granted under **Article 239AA of the Indian Constitution** (introduced by **the 69th Amendment Act, 1991**).

Statement 1 is correct. The **S. Balakrishnan Committee** was formed in **1987** to examine the administrative framework for Delhi. The committee recommended granting Delhi the status of a **National Capital Territory (NCT) and form it as Union Territory with a Legislative Assembly and a Council of Ministers**, while retaining the Union Government's ultimate control over key areas. These recommendations formed the **basis for the 69th Amendment Act, 1991,** which introduced Article 239AA into the Constitution, providing Delhi with a special status.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The **Chief Minister and other Ministers of Delhi are appointed by the President of India,** as per the constitutional framework for Union Territories under Article 239AA. The Lieutenant Governor (LG) does not appoint the Chief Minister of Delhi.

Statement 3 is correct. In the case of **difference of opinion** between the **Lieutenant Governor and his Ministers** on any matter, the Lieutenant Governor shall refer it to the **President for decision** and act according to the decision given thereon by the President.

106. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

In the Constituent Assembly, there were intense discussions about what the **official language** of India should be. The main questions were about which script (writing system) should be used, the type of numerals (Indian or English), and whether English should continue to have a role. **The Munshi-Ayyangar formula** was adopted as a compromise solution in 1950. It was named after Drafting Committee members K M Munshi and N Gopalaswamy Ayyangar.

As part of the Munshi-Ayyangar formula, Article 343 of the Constitution was adopted in 1950. It provides that

(a) "The official language of the Union shall be Hindi in Devanagari script."

(b) "The form of numerals to be used for the official purposes of the Union shall be the international form of Indian numerals."

(c) For a period of fifteen years from the commencement of this Constitution, the English language shall continue to be used for all the official purposes of the Union for which it was being used immediately before such commencement.

107. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In 2004, the Government of India introduced the "Classical Languages" (Shastriya Bhasha) category to recognize languages with deep historical roots, rich literary traditions, and distinct cultural significance. The Indian government announced in 2004 that languages might hold the title of "Classical Language" of India if they fulfilled a number of certain requirements.

Tamil became the first Indian language to receive classical status in 2004. The Ministry of Home Affairs initially granted the status to Tamil and Sanskrit. Later the Ministry of Culture took over the responsibility for further implementations and future recognitions. So far, eleven languages have been recognized as classical languages: Tamil (2004), Sanskrit (2005), Kannada (2008), Telugu (2008), Malayalam (2013), and Odia (2014). In 2024, five additional languages received this recognition, they include: **Marathi, Pali,** Prakrit, **Assamese,** and **Bengali.**

Gujarati has not been recognized as a classical language yet.

Important Tips

The criteria for including a language in the 'Classical Languages' category was revised in 2024 on the recommendations of the Linguistic Experts Committees (LEC) under Sahitya Akademi.

The revised criteria include:

- High antiquity of early texts, and recorded history over a period of 1500- 2000 years;
- A body of ancient literature/ texts, which is considered a heritage by generations of speakers;
- Epigraphic and inscriptional evidence;
- Knowledge texts, especially prose texts in addition to poetry; and
- That classical languages and literature could be distinct from their current form or could be discontinuous with later forms of its offshoots.

108. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The 97th Amendment (2011) granted constitutional status to cooperatives, making their formation a Fundamental Right under Article 19(1)(c). It introduced Article 43B in the DPSPs to promote cooperatives and added Part IXB (Articles 243-ZH to 243-ZT) to regulate their registration, functioning, and dissolution, ensuring autonomy and accountability.

Statement I is incorrect: The 97th Amendment of 2011 extended to both single-state and multi-state cooperative societies. However, as cooperative societies within a single state fall under the State List (Entry 32, List II), any amendment affecting their governance required ratification by half of the state legislatures under Article 368(2). In 2013, the Gujarat High Court declared Part IXB unconstitutional for lack of such ratification. **The Supreme Court, in *Union of India v. Rajendra N. Shah* (2021), upheld this ruling**, limiting the applicability of Part IXB to multi-state cooperative societies and **not to the cooperative societies functioning within a single state. The verdict said**, "We have struck down part IX B of the Constitution related to cooperative societies but we have saved the amendment." Thus the whole of 97th Constitutional Amendment was not struck down, only a part was struck down.

Statement II is correct: It is true that the **"Co-operative societies" is a subject enumerated in Entry 32 of the list II (state list)** of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, hence the state legislatures have the authority to enact legislations on co-operative societies.

The Supreme Court clarified that since cooperative societies fall within the realm of the "exclusive legislative authority" of State legislatures, the **provisions of Part IX B of the Constitution are applicable exclusively to multi-state cooperative societies.**

109. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement a is correct: The Parliamentary Committee on Official Language was **constituted under the provisions of the Official Languages Act, 1963,** in the year 1976.

Statement b is correct: Unlike the other Parliamentary panels, the **Committee of Parliament on Official Language is constituted by the Home Ministry.** It is chaired by the union Home minister and **has 30 members — 20 MPs from Lok Sabha and 10 MPs from Rajya Sabha.** The Committee's secretariat, which supports its work, is part of the Department of Official Language in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Statement c is correct: The primary objective of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language is **to review how well Hindi is being used for official purposes and suggest ways to increase its use in government work.** It also looks at other issues, such as the use of Hindi in schools, recruitment for government jobs, and exams.

Statement d is incorrect: This **Committee sends its report to the President under the provisions of the Official Languages Act, 1963. As per the Act** It shall be the duty of the Committee to review the progress made in the use of Hindi for the official purposes of the Union and submit a report to the President making recommendations thereon and the President shall cause the report to be laid before each House of Parliament, and sent to all the State Governments.

110. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Part XVII of the Constitution of India deals with official languages for the Union, states, judiciary, and inter-governmental communication. It includes Articles 343–351.

Statement 1 is correct. As per Article 343 of the Indian Constitution, the official language of the Union shall be Hindi in Devanagari script. The form of numerals to be used for the official purposes of the Union shall be the international form of Indian numerals.

Statement 2 is incorrect. As per the Article 345 of the Indian Constitution, **the Legislature of a State may by law adopt any one or more of the languages in use in the State or Hindi as the language or languages to be used for all or any of the official purposes of that State.**

Statement 3 is correct. As per Article 348 of the Indian Constitution, the Governor of a State may, with the previous consent of the President, authorise the use of the Hindi language, or any other language used for any official purposes of the State, in proceedings in the state High

Court. However, this clause shall apply to any judgment, decree or order passed or made by such High Court.

111. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

In the landmark case of **State of Punjab v. Davinder Singh,** the Supreme Court of India upheld the constitutionality of sub-classification within Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) for reservation purposes, overruling the earlier decision in **E.V. Chinnaiah v. State of Andhra Pradesh.**

Statement-I is correct. Article 341(1) of the Constitution gives the President the power to "specify the castes, races or tribes" in a state, which shall "for the purposes of this Constitution be deemed to be Scheduled Castes in relation to that State or Union territory, as the case may be". **The Supreme Court has now allowed the states to have the power to sub-classify the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.** This recognizes that SCs are not a homogeneous group, saying there are "unequals within the list of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and socially and educationally backward classes."

Statement-II is correct. This power of sub-classification vests from Article 15 and 16 of the Indian Constitution. Articles 15(4) of the Constitution gives states the power to make "any special provision" for the advancement of SCs. **Article 16(4)** gives states the specific power to provide "reservations of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizens which...is not adequately represented in the services of the State".

Statement II explains Statement I: The State in exercise of its power under Articles 15 and 16 is free to identify the different degrees of social backwardness and **provide special provisions (such as sub-classification) to achieve the goal of substantive equality.** Thus, the states have the power of subclassification within the Scheduled Caste categories recognized under Article 341 of the Indian Constitution.

Statement III is incorrect: Article 341(1) of the Constitution gives the President the power to "specify the castes, races or tribes" in a state, which shall "for the purposes of this Constitution be deemed to be Scheduled Castes in relation to that State or Union territory, as the case may be". **Further, Article 341(2) states that only Parliament can include or exclude "any caste, race or tribe" from the list of SCs. States donot have such power, sub classification doesnot mean the power to include or exclude any caste in the Scheduled caste category.**

112. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Under **Article 239AA** of the Constitution, which provides for a legislative assembly and Council of Ministers for Delhi, the **Chief Minister is appointed by the President,** who acts on the aid and advice of the Lieutenant Governor (LG). Typically, the President appoints the leader of the majority party or coalition in the Delhi Legislative Assembly as the Chief Minister.

Statement 2 is incorrect: As per Article 239AA(4) of the Constitution, the strength of Council of Ministers, headed by the Chief Minister, shall not exceed **ten percent** of the total number of members in the Legislative Assembly..

Statement 3 is incorrect: Under Article **239AA(3)(a),** the Delhi Assembly can make laws on subjects in the State List and Concurrent List, **except for public order, police, and land.** These subjects remain under the exclusive control of the Central Government, and the Lieutenant Governor directly oversees them on behalf of the President.

113. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Constituted on 1 April 2021, by the Government of India, the Capacity Building Commission has been mandated to drive standardisation and harmonisation across the Indian civil services landscape. As the custodian of civil services capacity building reforms, the Commission's role is central to the overall institutional framework of Mission Karmayogi.

Statement 1 is correct. Mission Karmayogi, the National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB), aims to enhance governance and citizen experience by fostering a competent and citizen-centric civil service through continuous learning and capacity building. **Its institutional framework includes four institutions** which are the Prime Minister's Human Resource Council, the Cabinet Secretariat Coordination Unit, **the Capacity Building Commission** and the SPV Karmayogi Bharat.

Statement 2 is correct. It prepares the State of the Civil Services Report which is published annually. Some other functions that it performs are:

- Exercising functional supervision over Training Institutions and creating shared learning resources.
- Facilitating the creation of Annual Capacity Building Plans for ministries and departments.
- Organising a global HR Summit.
- Evolving a harmonious, de-siloed approach to capacity building initiatives.
- Undertaking an Audit of Human Resources available in Govcrnmcnt.

114. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Section 4 of the Official Languages Act, 1963 says that a Committee on Official language shall be constituted on a resolution to that effect being moved in either House of Parliament with the previous sanction of the President and passed by both Houses.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The Parliamentary Committee on Official Language was established in 1976 under Section 4 of the Official Languages Act of 1963. **The Union Home Minister chairs the Committee,** which has been established in accordance with the requirements of the 1963 Act.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Committee consists of **30 members - 20 members elected from Lok Sabha and 10**

members elected from Rajya Sabha in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

Statement 3 is incorrect. The objective of Parliamentary Committee on Official Language **is to assess progress in the use of Hindi for official purposes and to provide recommendations to enhance the use of Hindi (not English) in official communications.**

The Committee sends its findings to the President, who "shall [then] cause the report to be laid before each House of Parliament, and sent to all the State Governments," according to the 1963 Act.

115. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Political parties and pressure groups have a significant role in democracy. Their interaction is evident, with trade unions (pressure groups) supporting political parties during elections, and political parties advocating for legislation that aligns with the interests of workers.

Statement 1 is correct: Pressure groups typically do not participate in elections, while **Political parties** are organised to **contest elections** with the aim of forming the government. Pressure groups do not aim to attain direct political power; instead, their focus is on influencing those in positions of authority to shape decisions in alignment with their interests. In contrast, political parties strive to secure power with the goal of forming a government.

Statement 2 is correct: While **Political parties often have distinct political ideologies** and platforms, **Pressure groups may not be ideologically driven**. For example, some political parties adhered to the ideologies of socialism, secularism and democracy, Pressure groups such as Trade Unions advocate for labour friendly laws.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Pressure groups typically have specific and narrow interests, while **Political** parties have **wider interests that** may have national and international implications.

116. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Pressure Groups and Interest Groups are terms often used interchangeably, but there are distinctions between them.

Interest Group	Pressure Group
Formally organized	Strictly structured
Interest-oriented	Pressure-focused
May or may not influence the policies of the government	Must influence the policies of the government
Softer in outlook	Harsher in attitude
More or less protective	Protective and promotive

Statement-I is correct: It is true that all pressure groups are interest groups, but all interest groups are not essentially pressure groups. **All pressure groups are interest groups because they share common interests**. Interest groups can take on a broader role, including research, public education, and policy advocacy, while **pressure groups** are more specifically focused on influencing government decisions through **direct pressure tactics.**

Statement-II is correct: The important distinction between Pressure Groups and Interest Groups lies in their approach to government authorities. **Pressure groups actively apply pressure** through methods like protests and campaigns to influence government decisions, as seen in cases like the Kisan Union advocating for Minimum Support Price for crops.

Therefore, **an interest group that employs pressure tactics to achieve its objectives is categorised as a pressure group.** This distinction clarifies why not all interest groups necessarily fall into the category of pressure groups, explaining the first statement.

117. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) plays an important role in efforts to reduce tensions and promote peace and understanding among various sections of society.

Statement 1 is correct: The National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) is an autonomous organisation in India that works **under the administrative control of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs**. It was established in 1992 with the primary aim of promoting communal harmony and national integration.

Statement 2 is correct: The NFCH focuses on providing assistance and support to the victims of communal, caste, and ethnic violence in the country, particularly children, who have been affected by such conflicts. The organization provides **financial assistance to children affected by violence for their rehabilitation,** education, and overall well-being.

118. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer

Part XVII of the India Constitution deals with official language matters within Articles 343 to 351. In 2004, the Government of India decided to create a new category of languages called "classical languages".

All Statements are correct: In India, so far six languages in India namely **Tamil, Telugu, Sanskrit, Kannada, Malayalam and Odia** have been given the status of classical language. A language to be recognised as a classical language, it must fulfil the following criteria:

1) The language should have a recorded history of at least 1,500-2,000 years.
2) The language must have a collection of age-old literary works and texts, regarded as a cherished legacy by successive generations of speakers
3) The literary tradition of the language should be original and not be borrowed from another linguistic group.
4) The language should have a distinct, independent tradition and not be merely an offshoot of another language.

119. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

English is the official language of India's Supreme Court and High Courts. All hearings in these courts must be conducted in English, according to Article 348 of the Indian Constitution. Unless Parliament passes legislation to the contrary, the authoritative text of all acts, orders, rules, and regulations must be in English.

Statement 1 is incorrect. Under the Constitution, the governor of a state, with the prior approval of the president, can permit the use of Hindi or any other official language of the state in high court proceedings. However, this authorization **does not extend to judgments, decrees, and orders issued by the high court**, which must remain in English until Parliament decides otherwise.

The Official Languages Act of 1963 allows (not Constitution) the governor, with the president's prior consent, to authorize the use of Hindi or the state's official language for high court judgments, decrees, and orders, provided that an English translation is also provided.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Article 348(1)(a) stipulates that unless Parliament authorizes otherwise by law, all proceedings before the Supreme Court and all High Courts must be conducted in English. As of now **the Parliament has not made any provision for the use of Hindi in the Supreme Court.** As a result, the Supreme Court hears only petitions and appeals filed in English.

Statement 3 is correct. Any language can be used by the state legislature in bills, acts, ordinances, orders, rules, regulations, or byelaws; however, an English translation must be made available.

120. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) which aims to work in India can be registered under plethora of laws. It can be registered under any of the following laws: Trust under Indian Trusts Act, 1882, Society under Societies Registration Act, 1860, Section 8 Company under Companies Act, 2013.

Statement 2 is incorrect. It is mandatory for all such NGOs which are seeking foreign funding to register themselves under the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA),and not Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA). The registration is initially valid for five years. Further, it can be renewed subsequently if they comply with all norms.

Statement 3 is incorrect. Registered NGOs can receive foreign contributions for five purposes — social, educational, religious, economic, and cultural.

Statement 4 is correct. The new Foreign Contribution Regulation (Amendment) Rules 2020 require that any organization that wants to register itself under the FCRA to have existed for at least three years. Further, it should have spent a minimum of Rs. 15 lakh on its core activities during the last three financial years for the benefit of society. Any NGO or person making an application for obtaining prior permission to receive foreign funds shall have an FCRA Account.

121. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Indra Sawhney Case, 1992 in which the Supreme Court (SC) ruled that reservations were not applicable in promotions in government service. In order to nullify the ruling with regard to reservation in promotions, the 77th Constitutional Amendment Act was enacted in 1995. It added a new provision in Article 16 that empowers the State to provide for reservation in promotions of any services under the State in favour of the SCs and STs that are not adequately represented in the state services. However in February 2020, the SC made a judgement clarifying that Article 16 (4A) is an enabling provision - giving Parliament the power to make such reservations - at its discretion, and cannot be demanded as a fundamental right. So reservation for SC/ST in promotions in government jobs is not a fundamental right as per the constitution of India.

Statement 2 is correct: The 85th Amendment Act of 2001 provides for 'consequential seniority' in the case of promotion by virtue of rule of reservation for the government servants belonging to the SCs and STs with retrospective effect from June 1995.

Consequential Seniority means elevation to a senior position consequential to circumstances, and not through normal rules.

122. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Originally, the Constitution of India did not make any provision with respect to an authoritative text of the Constitution in the Hindi language. Later, a provision in this regard was made by the 58th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1987 (Article 394-A).

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Constitution of India adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26 November, 1949, was in English language. A Hindi translation of the Constitution signed by the members of the Constituent Assembly was published in 1950.

123. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

To achieve the goals of **equality and justice** stated in the **Preamble**, the **Constitution** provides special measures for **Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs), and Anglo-Indians.** These provisions are found in **Part XVI of the Constitution,** from **Articles 330 to 342A.**

Option a is correct: The President of India has the authority to decide which castes or tribes in each state should be considered as Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs). The President of India does so by public notification after **consultation with the Governor**

of the concerned state. Any amendment to the Presidential notification regarding the lists of **SCs and STs** can only be done by **Parliament.** This is mentioned in **Article 341(2)** of the Constitution of India.

124. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct- Article 350B of the **Constitution of India** provides for appointing a **Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities (SOLM).** The **President** should appoint a **special officer for linguistic minorities** to **investigate and report** on **constitutional safeguards of the linguistic minority.** The SOLM is responsible for investigating all matters relating to the safeguards provided for linguistic minorities under the Constitution and reporting to the President at such intervals as the President may direct.

Statement 2 is correct- The **Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities** submits the annual reports or other reports **to the President** through the Union Minority Affairs Minister. The President in turn lays those reports in **Houses of Parliament** and sent to the **state governments concerned.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: The Constitution **does not specify the qualifications, tenure, salaries and allowances, service conditions and procedure for removal** of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities.

125. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Assertion (A) is false- The **first Backward Classes Commission was appointed in 1953** under **Kaka Kalelkar.** It submitted its report in **1955** but **no action was taken** due to indifferences among the members. The **second backward commission** was the **Mandal Commission** which was appointed in **1979. A reservation of 27%** was awarded in **government jobs** for the **Other Backward Classes (OBCs)** post this commission's recommendation.

Reason (R) is true- Article 340 of the Constitution of India empowers the **President** to appoint a commission to investigate the **conditions of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes** (SEBCs) and to **make recommendations** on measures to improve their condition.

126. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The objectives of the National Integration Council (NIC) are to achieve unity in diversity, freedom of religions, secularism, equality, justice-social-economic and political, and fraternity among all communities.

Statement 1 is correct: National Integration Council is neither a Constitutional body nor a Statutory body. It is an extra-constitutional body. The National Integration Council (NIC) was constituted in 1961 at a national conference on 'unity in diversity' convened by the Central government, at New Delhi.

Statement 2 is incorrect: National integration council is chaired by the Prime minister of India (and not by the President of India).

Statement 3 is incorrect: Meetings of the national integration council are convened as per requirement from time to time. There is no regular or specified time interval for convening meetings of the national integration council.

127. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Assertion (A) is true- Part XVI of the Indian Constitution under Article 330 to 342A does provide special provisions for **Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Backward Classes, and Anglo-Indians in India.** These provisions, among others, include **reservation of seats in Parliament and state legislatures, reservation of jobs in government and public sector undertakings.**

Reason (R) is also true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)- The Preamble of the Constitution does outline the aim of **achieving equality and justice.** The special provisions in Part XVI of the Constitution are designed to help achieve this aim by addressing the **historical and contemporary disadvantages faced by Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Backward Classes, and Anglo-Indians in India.**

128. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Anglo-Indians are people with **British and Indian parentage.** The term is legally defined as Indian citizens who are of European descent on their father's side. Their paternal ancestors could be British, French, or Portuguese.

Statement 1 is incorrect- The **104th Amendment Act of 2019 ended the practice of providing special representation to the Anglo-Indian community in the legislatures (Lok Sabha and Assembly) through nomination.** Before that, the President used to nominate 2 members from the Anglo-Indian Community to the Lok Sabha and the Governor used to nominate one member from the Anglo-Indian Community to the Legislative Assembly.

Statement 2 is correct- The **National Commission for Scheduled Castes has the same duties for the Anglo-Indian community under Article 338** of the Indian Constitution as it does for the Scheduled Castes. This means the **commission must look into all issues related to the constitutional and legal protections for the Anglo-Indian community** and report their findings to the **President.**

129. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement-I is correct: The government's role in promoting Hindi is rooted in Article 351 of the Indian Constitution. This article mandates the Union to encourage the use and development of Hindi as a medium of expression for India's diverse cultural elements. It emphasizes enriching Hindi by drawing from various languages, primarily Sanskrit, to preserve its essence while enhancing its vocabulary to create a shared language reflective of India's composite culture.

Statement-II is correct: The architects of India's constitution envisioned Hindi as a unifying language, bridging the diverse cultural and linguistic communities across the nation. They aimed to make Hindi a common medium of communication, fostering unity among India's rich tapestry of cultures, and promoting a sense of shared identity and understanding.

Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I: The framers of the constitution aimed to establish Hindi as a lingua franca to unite India's diverse culture. This **objective is reflected in Article 351, which outlines the government's duty to develop Hindi as a means of expression for the composite culture of India.**

130. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Union Territories are also known as 'centrally administered territories. Articles 239 to 241 in Part VIII of the Constitution deal with the union territories.

Statement 1 is correct: Every union territory is administered by the President acting through an administrator appointed by him. An administrator of a union territory is an agent of the President and not head of state like a governor.

Statement 2 is incorrect: The Parliament (not President) can make laws on any subject of the three lists of Seventh Schedule (including the State List) for the union territories. This power of Parliament also extends to Puducherry and Delhi, which have their own local legislatures.

Statement 3 is correct: Article 3 lays down two conditions with regard to creation of state/UT:

One, a bill contemplating the above changes can be introduced in the Parliament only with the prior recommendation of the President; and

Two, before recommending the bill, the President has to refer the same to the state legislature concerned for expressing its views within a specified period.

In case of a union territory, no reference need be made to the concerned legislature to ascertain its views and the Parliament can itself take any action as it deems fit. Since in this question the UT is formed from an existing state, so the views of the state legislature is taken.

131. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The Constitution, to fulfill the goals of equality and justice outlined in the Preamble, includes specific provisions for the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Backward Classes (BCs), and Anglo-Indians. These provisions are detailed in Part XVI, encompassing Articles 330 to 342A of the Constitution.

Statement 1 is incorrect: Part XVI of the Constitution contains both permanent and temporary provisions. While some provisions are a permanent feature, others have a specified period during which they operate. **Provisions like Article 331, which reserve seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the House of the People, are temporary and their validity is extended through constitutional amendments.** Provisions like Article 335 are of Permanent nature.

Statement 2 is correct: Part XVI of the Constitution incorporates provisions designed to safeguard specific classes from various forms of exploitation. **Article 338 establishes the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs), while Article 338-A establishes the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (STs).** These commissions are tasked with investigating and reporting on issues related to the constitutional safeguards for these respective groups, thereby contributing to their protection and well-being.

132. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Under the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules 1961, Ministry of Home Affairs is the nodal ministry for all matters of Union Territories relating to legislation, finance and budget, services and appointment of Lt. Governors and Administrators.

Statement 1 is correct: The 5 **UTs without legislature** (Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep and Ladakh) have the forum of Home Minister's Advisory Committee (HMAC)/ Administrator's Advisory Committee (AAC).

Statement 2 is correct: While Home Minister's Advisory Committee is chaired by the Union Home Minister, Administrator's Advisory Committee is chaired by the Administrator of the concerned UTs. The **Advisory Committees have the following members:**

- **Administrator of the UT**
- **Member of Parliament representing the UT**
- **Representatives of the District Panchayats and Municipal Council of the respective UTs**
- **Nominated members from the civil society.**

Statement 3 is correct: The Advisory Committee shall be consulted in the matters related to:

- General issues relating to social and economic development of the UTs.
- All legislative proposals concerning UT in regard to the matters in the State List.
- **Internal security related matters.**
- Such matters related to the Annual Financial Statement of the Union in so far as it concerns the UT.

133. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is incorrect. The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK) was constituted as a statutory body by an Act of Parliament viz. 'National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Act, 1993. It continued as a statutory body

till 2004. With the lapsing of the "The National Commission for Safai Karamcharis Act, 1993" w.e.f. 29.2.2004, the Commission is acting as a **non-Statutory** body of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment whose tenure is extended from time to time through Government Resolutions.

Statement 2 is correct. Every offence under the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 are **cognizable and non-bailable.**

134. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The criteria for specifying a community as a Scheduled Tribe in India, **as laid out by the Lokur Committee in 1965, include:**

1. **Indications of Primitive Traits:** The community in question should exhibit indications of primitive or tribal traits, which may include unique cultural practices, traditional lifestyles, and historical distinctiveness.
2. **Geographical Isolation:** The community must demonstrate a degree of geographical isolation, often residing in remote or less accessible areas, which has contributed to their distinct identity.
3. **Distinctive Culture:** A community's culture, customs, and traditions should be significantly different from the mainstream culture, further emphasizing their unique identity.
4. **Shyness of Contact with the Community at Large:** Communities being considered for inclusion should exhibit a tendency to maintain limited contact with the larger society or be relatively isolated from the mainstream population.
5. **Backwardness:** The community's socio-economic conditions, education levels, and acccss to basic amenities are also taken into account.

The income levels of the communities are not considered for inclusion in the Scheduled Tribes List.

Important Tips

The current procedure for including communities in the Scheduled Tribe list in India:

1. **Origin of Proposal:** The process for inclusion in the Scheduled Tribe list begins with the respective State or Union Territory government. They are responsible for initiating proposals for the inclusion of specific communities.
2. **Union Tribal Affairs Ministry:** Once the proposal is made at the state level, it is forwarded to the Union Tribal Affairs Ministry, which plays a pivotal role in evaluating and processing the proposal.
3. **Office of the Registrar General of India (ORGI):** The proposal, after reaching the Union Tribal Affairs Ministry, is then forwarded to the Office of the Registrar General of India (ORGI). This office holds the responsibility of scrutinizing the proposal in detail.
4. **National Commission for Scheduled Tribes:** If the ORGI approves the proposal based on these criteria, it is then forwarded to the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes for further examination. This commission plays a vital role in ensuring that the proposed community meets the necessary criteria.
5. **Cabinet Approval:** Only after obtaining the concurrence of these institutions, the proposal is brought before the Cabinet. The Cabinet, upon reviewing the proposal, may dccidc to bring in the appropriate constitutional amendment.
6. **Presidential Notification:** The final decision for inclusion in the Scheduled Tribe list rests with the President's office. The President issues a formal notification specifying the changes. This notification is made under the authority vested in the office by Articles 341 and 342 of the Indian Constitution.

135. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (STs), like the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (SCs), is a constitutional body established under **Article 338-A** of the Constitution. The **65th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1990** established the National Commission for SCs and STs. The Commission was established under Article 338 of the Constitution to monitor safeguards for SCs and STs under the Constitution and other laws

Statement 1 is correct. The President of India appoints the members and chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes. The NCST is a constitutional body made up of five members: a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, and three other members.

Statement 2 is incorrect. The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and each member serve for three years from the date they assume charge. The Chairperson is a Union Cabinet Minister, the Vice-Chairperson is a Minister of State, and the rest of the members are Secretaries to the Government of India.

Statement 3 is correct. The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) takes steps to ensure the full implementation of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act of 1996. These measures include the following:

1) Including tribal communities: Encourage Forest protection and social afforestation in line with the PESA Act, 1996, involving Gram Sabhas in land and resource management decisions.
2) Reduce shifting cultivation: Implement measures to end shifting cultivation as per the PESA Act, 1996, promoting sustainable agriculture under Gram Sabha oversight.
3) Reviewing programs: Hold meetings with district officers to evaluate development scheme impacts on tribal communities as mandated by the PESA Act, 1996, ensuring Gram Sabha involvement in planning and execution.

136. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The political environment of 1970s-1980s India was marked by social movements, political upheaval, and tragedies. From the Emergency era and anti-corruption protests to regional movements like Telangana, these decades witnessed significant societal and political transformations.

Event 1: Formation of the first coalition government at the center (1977): In the first four Lok Sabha elections (1952, 1957, 1962, and 1967), the Congress party consistently secured a majority to form the government at the Centre. Even after a split in the Congress party in 1969, the minority government of Indira Gandhi continued with outside support from parties like the CPI and the DMK. However, the Congress party won the 1971 elections and formed a single-party government. **The dominant Congress party faced a significant defeat in the 1977 elections. This marked the beginning of coalition politics at the center in free India, with non-Congress forces uniting under the leadership of Morarji Desai** to form the Janata government. Since then, there have been several coalition governments at the Centre

Event 4: Removal of right to property from the list of fundamental rights (1978): This event refers to the 44th Amendment Act of 1978, which amended the Indian Constitution to remove the right to property as a fundamental right. Previously, Article **19(1)(f)** guaranteed the right to acquire, hold, and dispose of property as a fundamental right. However, the 44th Amendment Act changed it to a legal right, subject to legislation by the government. This amendment aimed to curb the misuse of the right to property and enable the government to enact land reform laws without constitutional hindrances.

Event 3: Addition of the 10th Schedule(1985): The 10th Schedule, also known as the Anti-Defection Law, was added to the Indian Constitution through the 52nd Amendment Act of 1985. This amendment aimed to curb political defections by legislators and promote stability in the political system. The 10th Schedule specifies the circumstances under which a Member of Parliament or a Member of a State Legislature can be disqualified on the grounds of defection.

Event 2: Reduction of voting age to 18(1988): The reduction of the voting age from 21 to 18 years was introduced through the 61st Amendment Act of 1988. This amendment amended **Article 326** of the Indian Constitution, which deals with elections to the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies. Lowering the voting age aimed to enhance youth participation in the democratic process and recognize their maturity and awareness of political issues.

137. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Option a is incorrect: Right to practice and propagate their religion freely is safeguarded under **Article 25** of the Indian Constitution and **focuses on religious practices and propagation rather than the broader cultural heritage of Parsis.**

Option b is incorrect: "Right to Equality" focuses on ensuring equal treatment under the law regardless of religion, and **it doesn't specifically address cultural autonomy or heritage preservation.**

Option c is correct: Cultural and Educational Rights of Minorities is safeguarded under Articles 29 and 30 of the Indian Constitution. **Article 29 ensures the right of citizens with distinct languages, scripts, or cultures to conserve them. Article 30 grants minorities, including cultural and religious groups like Muslims and Parsis, the right to establish and manage educational institutions of their choice.** These rights empower these groups to be custodians of their cultural heritage and make decisions on its preservation, ultimately **ensuring cultural justice and preventing the dominance of the majority culture.**

Option d is incorrect: Right to freedom of speech and expression is protected under **Article 19,** primarily **pertains to individual freedoms of speech and expression, not the collective rights of cultural preservation.**

138. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement a is correct: The Act categorizes offenses into different levels, addressing degrading actions that are both physically and morally repugnant. These include **compelling Scheduled Caste or Tribe members to ingest unsuitable substances, forcefully stripping them, parading them naked or with painted faces, or engaging in acts that violate human dignity.**

Statement b is correct: The Act addresses actions that strip Dalits and Adivasis of their limited resources and subject them to forced labor. **It seeks to penalize those who wrongfully occupy, cultivate, or transfer land that belongs to a Scheduled Caste or Tribe member,** aiming to protect their property rights and prevent exploitation.

Statement c is correct: The Act imposes penalties on non-Scheduled Caste or non-Scheduled Tribe public servants who deliberately fail to fulfill their responsibilities as mandated by this Act and its associated rules. Such individuals can be sentenced to a prison term lasting a minimum of six months, extending up to one year, for their willful neglect of duties.

Statement d is incorrect: The Act imposes penalties for subjecting Scheduled Caste or Tribe members to economic boycott. This means **any act or behavior that deliberately hinders their access to economic opportunities or denies them normal business interactions is punishable. The Act clearly defines the term "economic boycott." It encompasses several aspects such as refusal to engage in business, denial of opportunities, deviation from common business practices, and abstaining from professional or business relations with a person**

139. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Option a is correct: Social capital refers to the networks, relationships, and **social bonds that exist within a**

community or society. In this context, the strong social ties within the community lead to increased trust, cooperation, and a sense of belonging. These factors can **contribute to lower crime rates** as people are more likely to look out for one another, report crimes, and prevent anti-social behaviour through social influence.

Option b is incorrect: While an **increased tax base** is important for a country's economic well-being, it is not directly linked to the concept of Social Capital. The **concept of Social Capital focuses on social relationships between the members** of a community.

Option c is incorrect: Construction of the road and railway network is related to **Physical Infrastructure** Development. Whereas Social Capital is related more to intangible things like trust and cooperation within a society.

Option d is incorrect: Government investments in natural resources to foster sustainable development are more related to the concept of sustainable development, not social capital.

140. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Several steps have been taken in India to address caste-based discrimination and promote social equality over the years.

Statement 1 is correct: It is true that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act of 1989 strengthened the legal provisions punishing acts of violence or humiliation against Dalits and Adivasis.

Statement 2 is incorrect: While the Constitution of India does provide for reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the Lok Sabha (Article 330) and State Legislative Assemblies (Article 332), it does not provide for reservation of seats for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.

Statement 3 is correct: The 93rd Constitutional Amendment Act, passed in 2005, enables states to introduce reservations for Other Backward Classes **(OBCs) in private, unaided educational institutions**. This amendment extended the provision of OBC reservation beyond government educational institutions.

141. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct: Article 342(2) of the Indian Constitution confers the exclusive authority upon Parliament to amend the list of Scheduled Tribes by adding or removing tribes or tribal communities through legislative action. Once a notification is issued under Article 342(1), it cannot be changed by subsequent notifications. The process is governed by legal procedures set forth in the Constitution.

Statement 2 is incorrect: Scheduled Tribes are officially recognized in 30 States/Union Territories, encompassing 705 distinct ethnic groups. **As per the 2011 census, India's tribal population stands at 10.43 crore, making up 8.6% of the total population.** A majority, 89.97%, reside in rural areas, with 10.03% residing in urban areas.

142. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

The expression "minorities" appears in some Articles of the Constitution, but is not defined anywhere. It may be considered as a group that is numerically smaller than the majority population.

Statement 1 is correct. The term "minority" is **not explicitly defined in the Constitution** of India. However, the Constitution does provide for the protection of the rights of minorities under various provisions like Article 29 and 30 of the Constitution.

Statement 2 is correct. The **recognition of minorities can occur at both the national and state levels.** Centre can declare linguistic and religious minorities at national level according to National Commission for Minorities (NCM) Act, 1992. **State government can also declare certain linguistic and religious communities as a minority group within the State based on a law framed by it for the same.**

Statement 3 is incorrect. Legislative Assembly members are elected through **direct elections**. There is **no specific provision for the nomination** of persons from **minority communities** to the Legislative Assembly by the Governor.

143. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Before the **Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act of 2019**, the State of Jammu and Kashmir had a bicameral legislature consisting of a Legislative Assembly (lower house) and a Legislative Council (upper house). After the reorganisation, the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir became part of the **unicameral legislature of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir,** functioning as the sole legislative body with the authority to enact laws and regulations.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The legislative assembly of Jammu and Kashmir has the authority to enact laws on subjects listed in the State List **except public order and police**. It can also enact legislation related to land.

Statement 2 is correct: The electoral college for the President of India **consists of elected members** of both houses of Parliament (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) and elected members of the **Legislative Assemblies** of the States and **Union territories of NCT of Delhi and Puducherry**.

Under the 70th Constitutional Amendment Act, the term 'State' mentioned in article 54 of the Constitution was to include the Union Territories with legislature i.e. The UTs of Delhi and Puducherry.

Since, UT of Jammu and Kashmir is not mentioned under the definition of State in article 54, it does not form the part of electoral college of President of India. For UT of J & K to become part of electoral college of President of India, another constitutional amendment is needed under article 54.

144. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Civil services in India are key positions within the government filled through competitive exams, crucial for policymaking and governance. **Article 311** of the Constitution contains provisions safeguarding civil servants by requiring a fair inquiry and providing an opportunity to defend against charges before dismissal, removal, or reduction in rank. These safeguards ensure fairness and protect civil servants from arbitrary actions.

Statement 1 is incorrect: The Supreme Court has ruled that public servants may be prosecuted without prior approval from the appropriate authorities, as not all their actions performed in the course of official duties are shielded by section 197 of the Criminal Procedure Code.
Statement 2 is correct: As per Article 311 of the Constitution of India, a civil servant cannot be dismissed or removed **by an authority subordinate to the one who appointed them.** This safeguard prevents arbitrary actions and ensures impartiality and fairness in the civil service system.

Statement 3 is correct: As per Article 311 (2) of the Constitution of India, Civil servants are **generally entitled to a fair inquiry process and must be given a reasonable opportunity to defend themselves** against any charges before facing dismissal, **removal**, or reduction in rank.

An exception was made in Union of India v Tulshiram Patel case, the Supreme Court held that the dismissal, removal or reduction in rank **of a person convicted on criminal charges** is in public interest, can be removed without holding an inquiry, and it is not therefore considered violative of Article 311(2) of the Constitution.

145. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Director General of Police (DGP) is a rank in the Indian Police Service, held by the highest-ranking police officer in a State or a Union Territory of India, typically heading the state or the UT police force.

Statement 1 is correct:

1) The UPSC had first framed guidelines for empaneling officers for the appointment of state DGPs in 2009, after the Supreme Court verdict in the police reforms case of 2006.
2) The **empanelment committee for empaneling officers for the appointment of state DGPs is headed by the UPSC Chairman** and includes the Union Home Secretary, the State's Chief Secretary and DGP, and one of the heads of the Central Armed Police Forces nominated by the MHA who is not from the same State cadre.

Statement 2 is correct:

1) In 2023, the amended guidelines issued by UPSC mentioned that only police officers with at least six months of service left before retirement will be considered for appointment as the Director General of Police of a State.
2) The guidelines also allow officers with 25 years' experience to be appointed as a DGP, against the earlier requirement of a minimum 30 years of service.
3) The number of shortlisted officers cannot exceed three but may consist of less than three officers in "exceptional circumstances".

Important Tips

1) Inspector General of Police (IGP): IGPs are senior IPS officers who report to the DGP and head specific zones or departments within the state police force. They may oversee crime investigation, intelligence gathering, or traffic management.
2) Additional Director General of Police (ADGP): ADGPs are IPS officers who hold positions just below the IGP level. They may oversee specialized units like counterterrorism or cybercrime or handle administrative functions within the police force.
3) Some Indian states have been appointing temporary police chiefs i.e. acting DGPs to avoid following the UPSC process for appointment. States such as Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana have all appointed "in-charge" DGPs, or DGPs with "full additional charge".

146. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

Article 300 of the Constitution deals with the suits by or against the Government in India.

The Government of India, like other governments, is subject to laws concerning torts, which are civil wrongs leading to direct or indirect damage. The liability for these torts hinges on whether they occur during sovereign or non-sovereign functions.

Statement 1 is correct: Based on the pre-Independent British convention established in India through various charters and the post-Independence supreme court ruling, when a citizen suffers damage due to a negligent act by the servants of the State, the State is liable to pay compensation. It shows the general liability of the government in cases of negligence by its servants. The state, as an employer, is held responsible for the actions of its employees done within the scope of their employment and causing harm due to negligence. The negligence must have occurred while the servant was performing their official duties.

Statement 2 is correct: The government (Union or states) in India can be sued for torts (civil wrongs) committed by its officials in the exercise of its sovereign functions. The sovereign functions include aspects like administering justice, constructing a military road, commandeering goods during war, etc.

Non-Sovereign Function of servants of State, include actions not inherent to the government's sovereignty, such as running businesses or providing utilities, where the government acts as any private legal entity would. The understanding of not differentiating between sovereign and non-sovereign functions has evolved through multiple SC judgements.

147. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Option b is the correct answer:

The Razakars were a **paramilitary group formed in Hyderabad** in 1938. It was formed to support the rule of the Nizam and **oppose the integration of Hyderabad into the Indian Union following independence in 1947** They murdered, maimed, raped and looted, targeting particularly the non-Muslims.

Important Tips

Operation Polo, also known as the "Police Action," was the code name for the Indian military operation that integrated the Hyderabad State into the Indian Union in September 1948. The operation was necessitated due to the Nizam's refusal to accede to India and the violent actions of the Razakars. It lasted for five days and resulted in the dissolution of the Razakars and the incorporation of Hyderabad into India

148. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

The Indian Constitution contains elaborate emergency provisions to enable the President to meet any extraordinary situation effectively. President can declare State emergency (President's Rule) on the ground of failure of Constitutional machinery in the states (Article 356) or failure to comply with the directions of the Centre (Article 365).

Statement I is incorrect, and Statement II is correct: According to Article 356 of the constitution, President's rule can be imposed in a state "if a situation has arisen in which the government of the state cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the constitution.

However, Article 356 is not applicable to the National Capital Territory of Delhi as it is a Union Territory. Under Article 239AB of the Indian constitution:

If the President, on receipt of a report from the Lieutenant Governor or otherwise, is satisfied—

(a)that a situation has arisen in which the administration of the National Capital Territory cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of article 239AA or of any law made in pursuance of that article; or

(b)that for the proper administration of the National Capital Territory it is necessary or expedient so to do, **the President may by order suspend the operation of any provision of article 239AA or of all** or any of the provisions of any law made in pursuance of that article for such period and subject to such conditions as may be specified in such law and make such incidental and consequential provisions as may appear to him to be necessary or expedient for administering the National Capital Territory in accordance with the provisions of article 239 and article 239AA.

149. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The **things of value refers to assets** such as natural resources or valuable items, located within India's territorial waters, continental shelf, or exclusive economic zone. These areas encompass various resources like marine life, minerals, and energy reserves that fall under the jurisdiction and management of India.

According to article 297 of the Indian Constitution, all lands, minerals, and other valuable assets within India's territorial waters, continental shelf, and exclusive economic zone are vested in the Union Government and are held for the Union's purposes. This means that the Union Government has jurisdiction and authority over these resources, including their management and utilization.

150. Solution: (c)

Exp) option c is the correct answer.

The President may make regulations for the peace, progress and good government of the Union territory of—

- Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- Lakshadweep
- Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu
- Puducherry
- Ladakh

A regulation so made has the same force and effect as an act of Parliament. It may also repeal or amend any act of Parliament in relation to these union territories.

National Capital Territory of Delhi is governed by Article 239AA of the Constitution of India.

151. Solution: (c)

Exp) Option c is the correct answer.

The **Parliament** under article 241, can establish a high court for a union territory or put it under the jurisdiction of the high court of adjacent state.

Pair 1 is correct. Andaman and Nicobar Islands are placed under **Calcutta High Court**

Pair 2 is incorrect. Dadar and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu are placed under **The Bombay High Court.**

Pair 3 is correct. Lakshadweep is placed under **Kerala High Court**

Pair 4 is correct. Puducherry is placed under **Madras High Court**

Important Tips

1. Delhi is the only union territory that has a high court of its own since 1966.
2. The Jammu and Kashmir & Ladakh High Court is the common high court for the two union territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.
3. Chandigarh is placed under Punjab and Haryana High Court

152. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Compulsory land acquisition in India refers to the government's authority to acquire private land for public projects like infrastructure, industrial development, or

urbanization. The Constitution 44th Amendment Act, 1978, removed the right to property of its fundamental right-character, and adorned it with status of Constitutional/legal right. Arts. 19(1)(f) and 31 were deleted from the Part III- "Fundamental Rights" and Art. 300 has been inserted in Part XII under a separate Chapter V "Right to Property"

Statement 1 is correct: The government is under the constitutional obligation to pay compensation if it acquires the property of minority educational institution.

Statement 2 is correct: According to article 31A. Government is obliged to give compensation at the market value to persons holding land for personal cultivation and within the ceiling limit Land acquisition acts in India typically have provisions for compensating landowners whose land is acquired for public purposes, if it's under personal cultivation and within statutory limits.

Statement 3 is incorrect: When the government acquires property of a non minority educational institution, compensation is not required. There's no specific constitutional protection for compensation in this case. The government might follow the land acquisition act and provide compensation based on the act's terms.

Statement 4 is incorrect: Land for religious purposes is not covered for mandatory compensation by the government.

153. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement- I is incorrect. The Constitution does not provide immunity to ministers for their official acts. The constitution provides guarantees only to President and Governor. They cannot be sued during the term of their office or thereafter, for any act done by them in the exercise and performance of their official powers and duties

Statement- II is correct. There is no requirement for ministers to countersign the official acts of the President and hence, they can't be held responsible for them in court. Moreover, they are not liable for the official acts done by the president and the governors on their advice as the courts are debarred from inquiring into such advice.

In some parliamentary systems, such as Britain, ministers are required to countersign certain presidential decrees or orders for them to become legally effective. However, in the Indian constitutional framework, ministers do not have this obligation.

154. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India lists the official languages of the country. It initially contained 14 languages, and over time, through amendments, the number has increased to 22 languages.

Statement 1 is correct. According to the Official Language Resolution of 1968, languages listed in the Eighth Schedule, along with English, are permitted as alternative medium for All India and higher Central Services examinations after consulting the Union Public Service Commission.

Statement 2 is incorrect. Two major annual international awards for scholars of eminence in the concerned language is the specific benefit which are available for languages once they are declared as classical languages not with inclusion in the Eighth Schedule

The inclusion of a language in the Eighth Schedule allows related Sahitya Academies (literary academies) to introduce awards, special promotion programs, and other initiatives as they see fit. This provision enables the promotion and preservation of languages and their associated literature, fostering cultural diversity and linguistic heritage across the country.

Statement 3 is incorrect. While languages included in the Eighth Schedule may have significance and recognition at various levels, including in legislative bodies and educational institutions, **there is no specific provision that qualifies them for use in the proceedings of the Supreme Court of India.** The Supreme Court primarily conducts its proceedings in English(Article 348), and translation services may be provided for other languages as needed, but there is no mandatory requirement for the usage of languages from the Eighth Schedule.

155. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

The term 'minority' is mentioned in Section 2(c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992, as a community notified as such by the Central Government. While the Act does not specifically define the term "minority," it does state that the Centre will notify and designate persons who are minorities. Currently, India has six minority communities: Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Zoroastrians (Parsis), and Jains.

Statement 1 is correct. Minority communities in India have the right to establish and manage their educational institutions to preserve and promote their culture and language (Article 30).

Statement 2 is incorrect. While minority status may promote inclusivity and diversity in employment opportunities, **it does not grant preferential treatment in employment or government contracts. This only for people who fall under the categories of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and Other Backward Classes for example Jains are financially sound and most of them are out of these categories**

156. Solution: (b)

Exp) Option b is the correct answer.

Union Territories in India are regions that are directly controlled and administered by the Central Government. This contrasts with states, which have their own governments. Union Territories are established to deal with regions that are too small to be independent states but are culturally distinct or strategically important.

Statement 1 is correct: The French handed over Puducherry to India in 1954. Subsequently, it was administered as an 'acquired territory', till 1962 when it was made a union territory by **the 14th Constitutional Amendment Act.**

Statement 2 is correct: The Union Territory of Puducherry comprises of 4 coastal regions viz. - Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam. **The area of Puducherry is scattered over three different states in the country – Puducherry, the capital of the UT is in Tami Nadu, Karaikal region is embedded in the Nagappattinam and Tiruvarur District of Tamil Nadu, Mahe in the west coast of Kerala and Yanam is in Andhra Pradesh.**

Statement 3 is incorrect: In Krishna River Water dispute tribunal Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh are involved, not Puducherry. **Puducherry is part to Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal.**

157. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

Article 296 of the Indian Constitution pertains to the concept of property that accrues to the state by escheat, lapse, or as bona vacantia.

Pair 1 is correct. Escheat refers to the legal process by which **property transfers to the state** when a person **dies without a will or any heirs** to inherit the property. Essentially, if someone passes away without leaving a valid will or any identifiable legal heirs, their property will escheat to the state.

Pair 2 is incorrect. Bona vacantia refers to **property** that is considered **vacant or ownerless**. In legal terms, it usually applies to property that has been **abandoned or forfeited.** Bona vacantia property typically becomes the property of the state or government.

Pair 3 is incorrect. Lapse occurs when a person **fails to follow appropriate procedures**. Lapse is similar to escheat but can also apply to situations where a bequest or gift left in a will fails. This can occur if the **beneficiary named in the will predeceases the person who wrote the will** (testator) or if the **beneficiary refuses the bequest**. In such cases, the property may lapse back to the estate to be distributed according to the will's terms or by the rules of intestate succession which is applicable when there's no will.

158. Solution: (a)

Exp) Option a is the correct answer.

All-India services are those services which are common to both Central and state governments. The All-India Services Act of 1951 authorised the Central government to make rules in consultation with the state governments for the regulation of recruitment and service conditions of the members of all-India services.

According to All India Servants Conduct rules, 1968, and later amendments by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions

No member of the Service shall except, with the previous sanction of the Government,—

(a) engage directly or indirectly in any trade or business, (Hence option 1 is incorrect)

(b) negotiated for or undertake, any other employment, (Hence option 2 is incorrect)

(c) hold an elective office, or canvass for a candidate or candidates for an elective office, in any body, whether incorporated or not, (Hence option 3 is incorrect)

(d) canvass in support of any business of insurance agency, commission agency etc. owned or managed by any member of his family, etc.

A member of the Service may, without the previous sanction of the Government,—

(a) undertake honorary work of a social or charitable nature, (Hence option 4 is correct)

(b) undertake occasional work of a literary, artistic or scientific character,

(c) participate in sports activities as an amateur, etc. (Hence option 5 is correct)

159. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Statement 1 is correct. According to the constitution, until Parliament provides otherwise All proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court is to be in the English language only. **However, Parliament has not made any provision for Hindi in the Supreme Court. Hence, the Supreme Court hears only those who petition or appeal in English.**

Statement 2 is incorrect. The governor of a state, with the **previous consent of the President,** can authorize the use of **Hindi or any other official language of the state,** in the **proceedings in the high court** of the state, but **not** with respect to the **judgements, decrees and orders** passed by it. The Official Languages Act of 1963 enables the governor of a state, with the previous consent of the president, to authorise the use of Hindi or any other official language of the state for **judgements, decrees and orders passed by the high court** of the state but they should be accompanied by an English translation.

Statement 3 is correct. A state legislature has the authority to mandate the use of any language, **other than English, for bills, acts, ordinances, orders, rules, regulations, or bye-laws.** However, a translation of these documents into the English language must be made available for publication.

160. Solution: (d)

Exp) Option d is the correct answer.

Option d is correct: The doctrine of escheat postulates that **where an individual dies intestate and does not leave behind an heir** who is qualified to succeed to the property, **the property devolves on government.** Though the property devolves on government in such an eventuality, yet the government takes it subject to all its obligations and liabilities.